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# Geronimo Stilton





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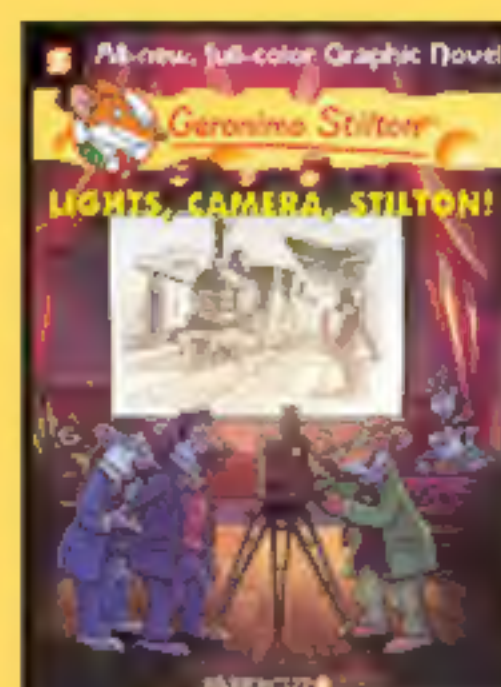
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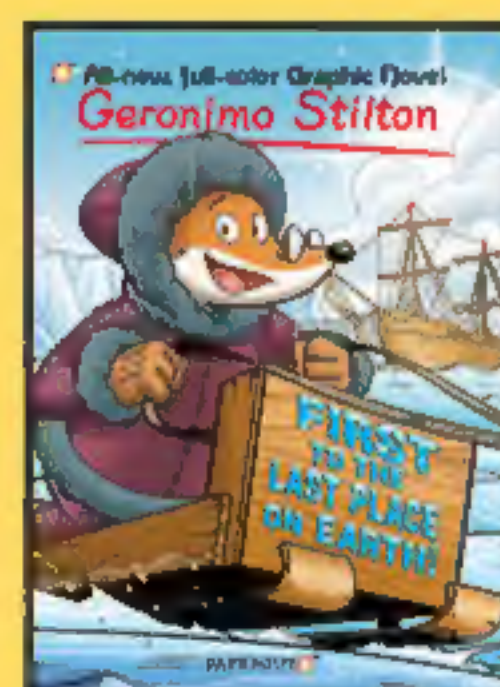
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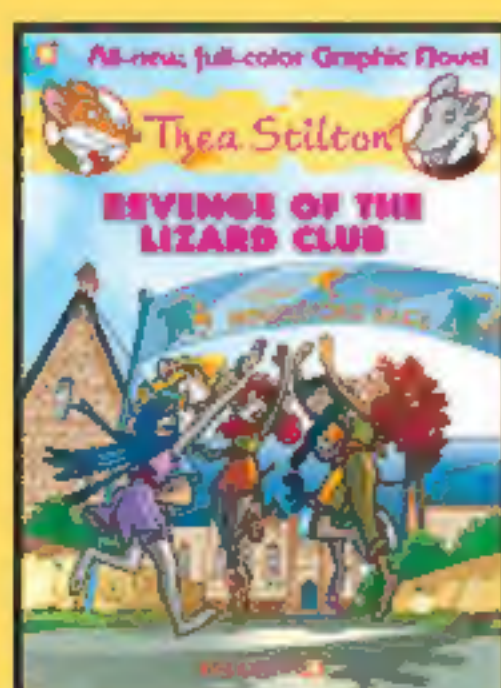
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# Geronimo Stilton

## **FIRST TO THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH!**

**By Geronimo Stilton**





GERONIMO STILTON #18

FIRST TO THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH!

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Text by Geronimo Stilton

Cover by Ryan Jampole (art) and JayJay Jackson (color)

Editorial supervision by Alessandra Berello and Margherita Banal (Atlantyca S.p.A.)

Script by Francesco Savino and Leonardo Favia

Translation by Nanette McGuinness

Art by Ryan Jampole

Color by Laurie E. Smith and JayJay Jackson

Lettering by Wilson Ramos Jr.

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Based on an original idea by Elisabetta Dami

[www.geronimostilton.com](http://www.geronimostilton.com)

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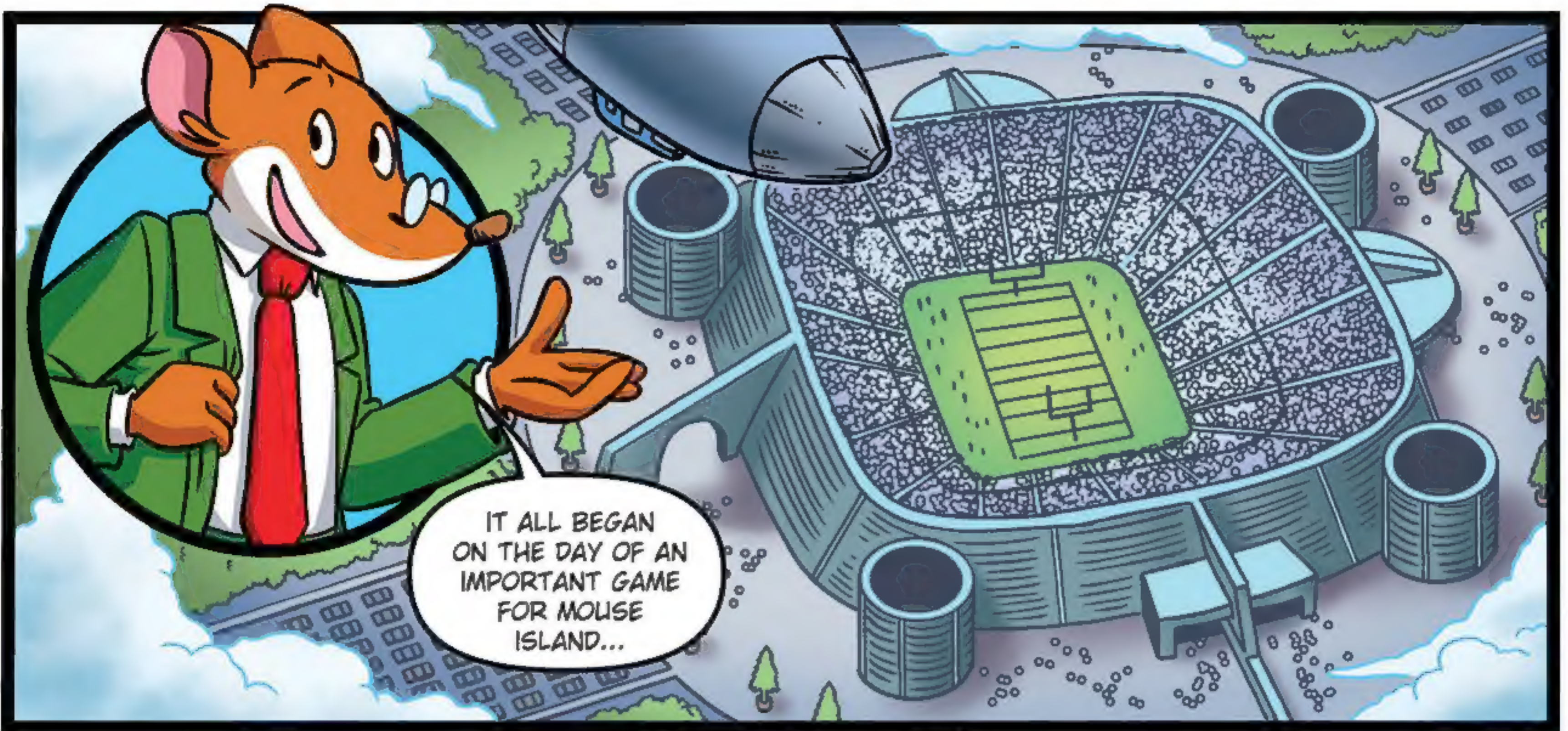
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BUT I'M SUCH A SCATTERBRAIN!  
I FORGOT TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. MY  
NAME IS STILTON, *Geronimo Stilton*,  
AND I EDIT THE RODENT'S GAZETTE,  
THE MOST FAMOUSE PAPER  
ON MOUSE ISLAND!

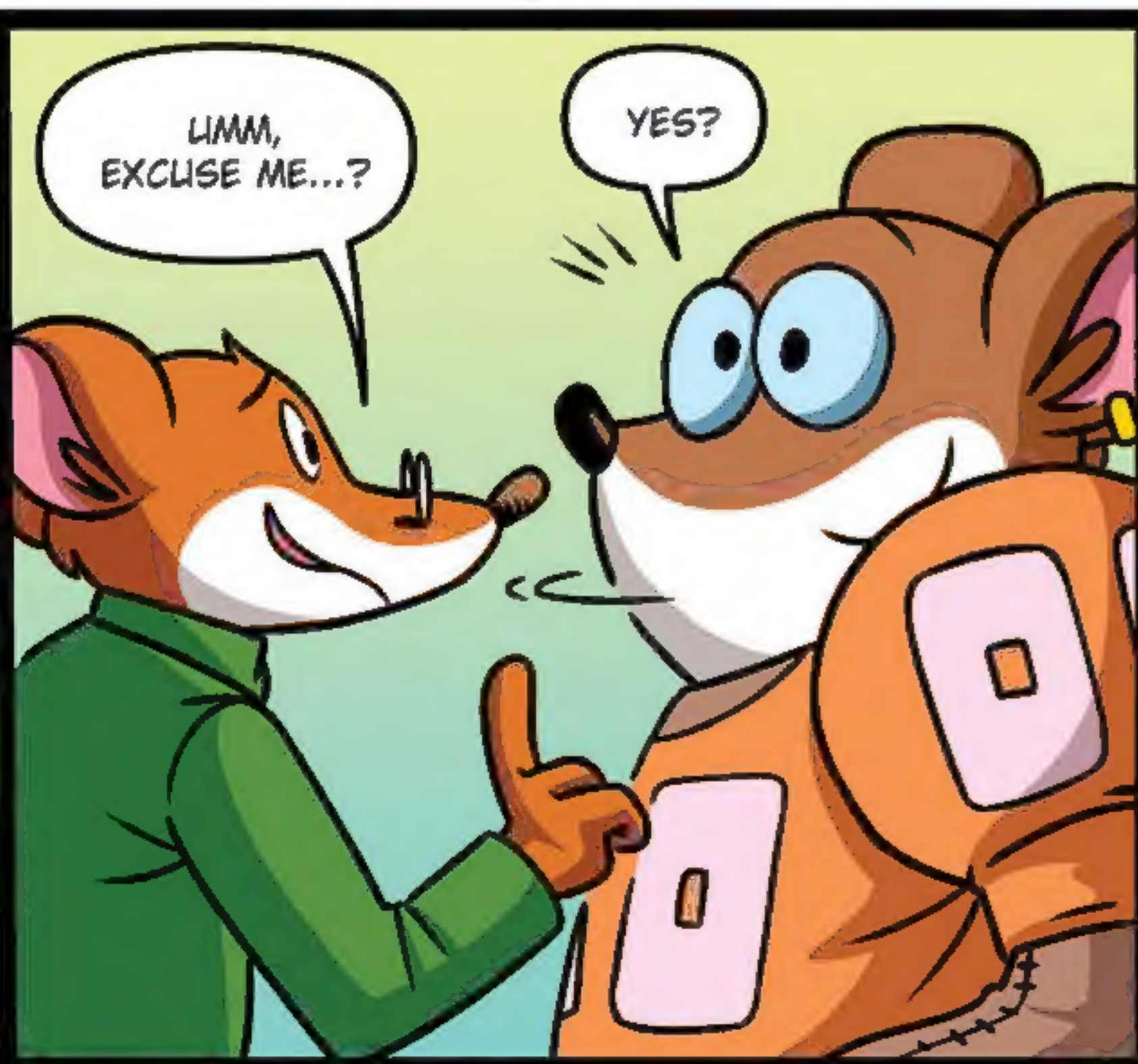


THAT MASCOT  
LOOKS FAMILIAR  
TO ME...



LIMM,  
EXCUSE ME...?

YES?



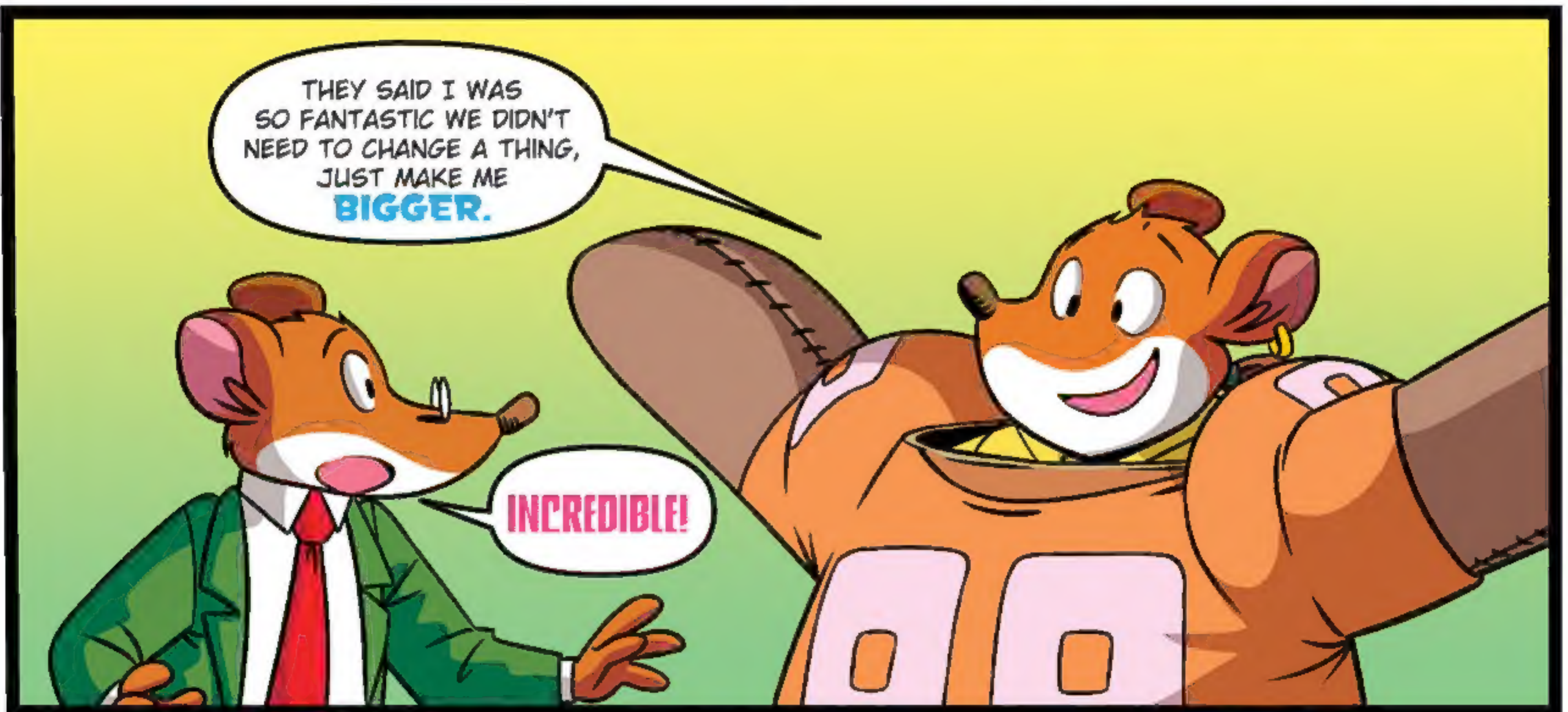
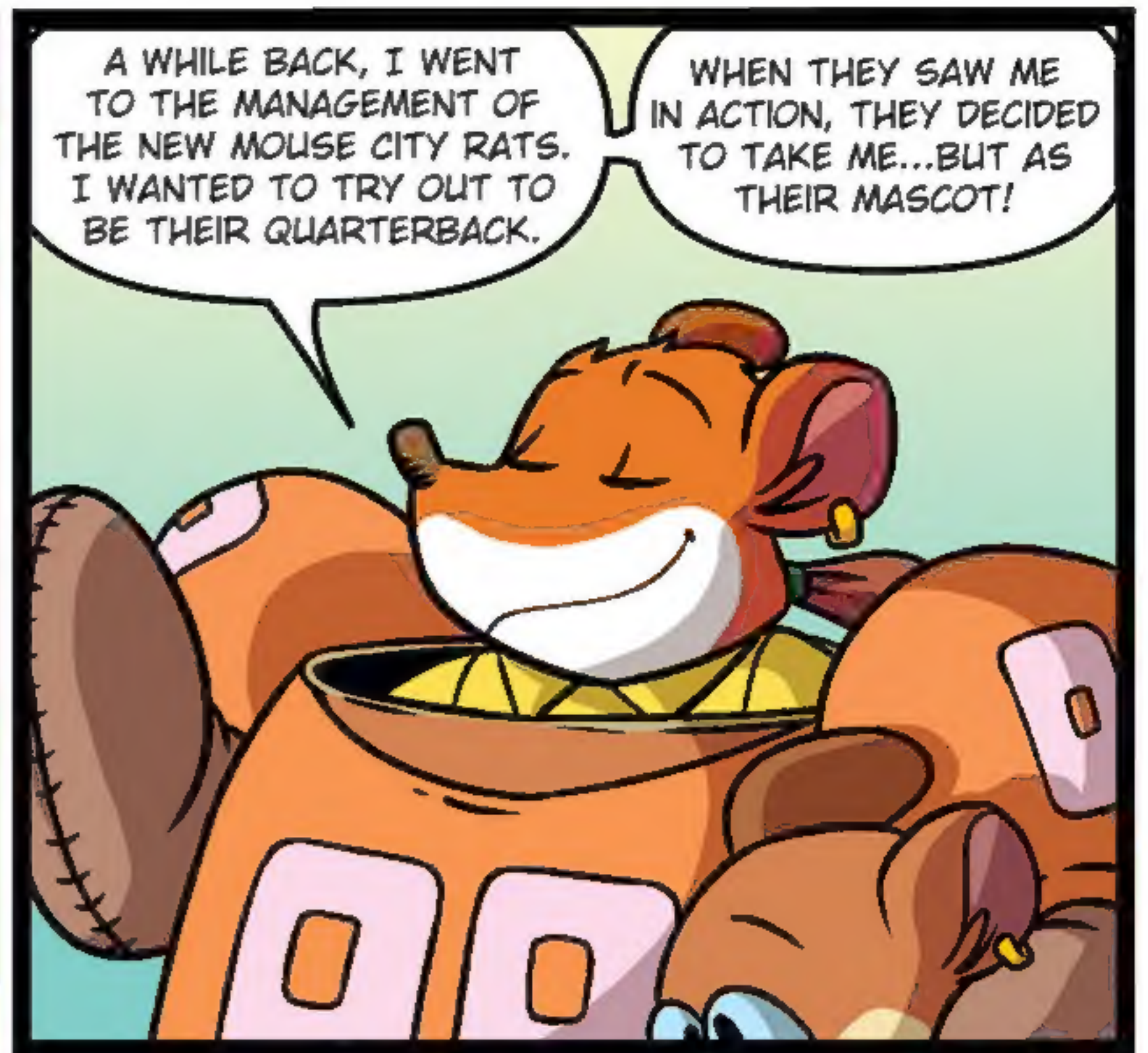
YOU REMIND ME OF A MOUSE  
I KNOW, AND I WANTED  
TO FIND OUT IF...

**GERONIMO!**

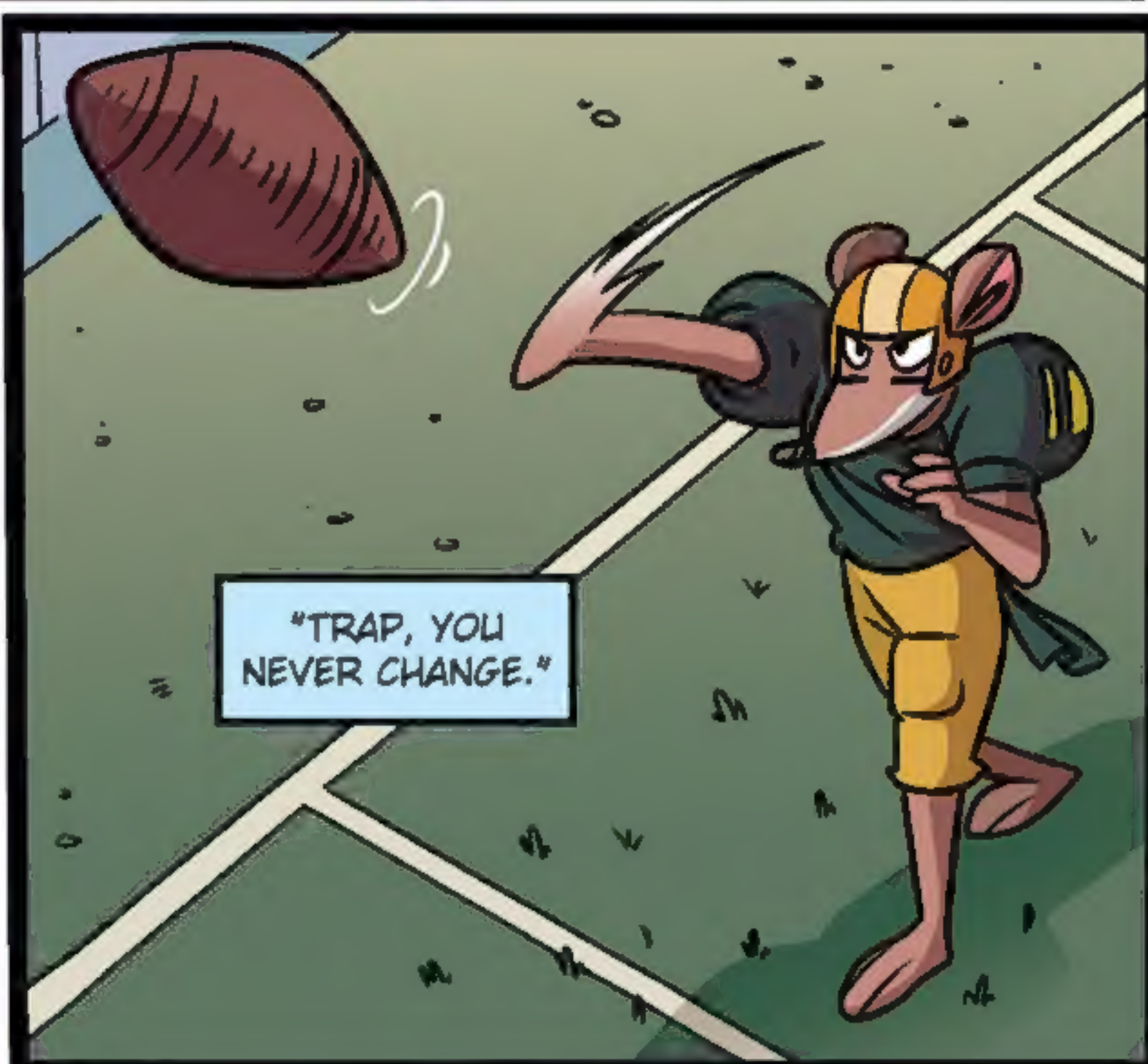
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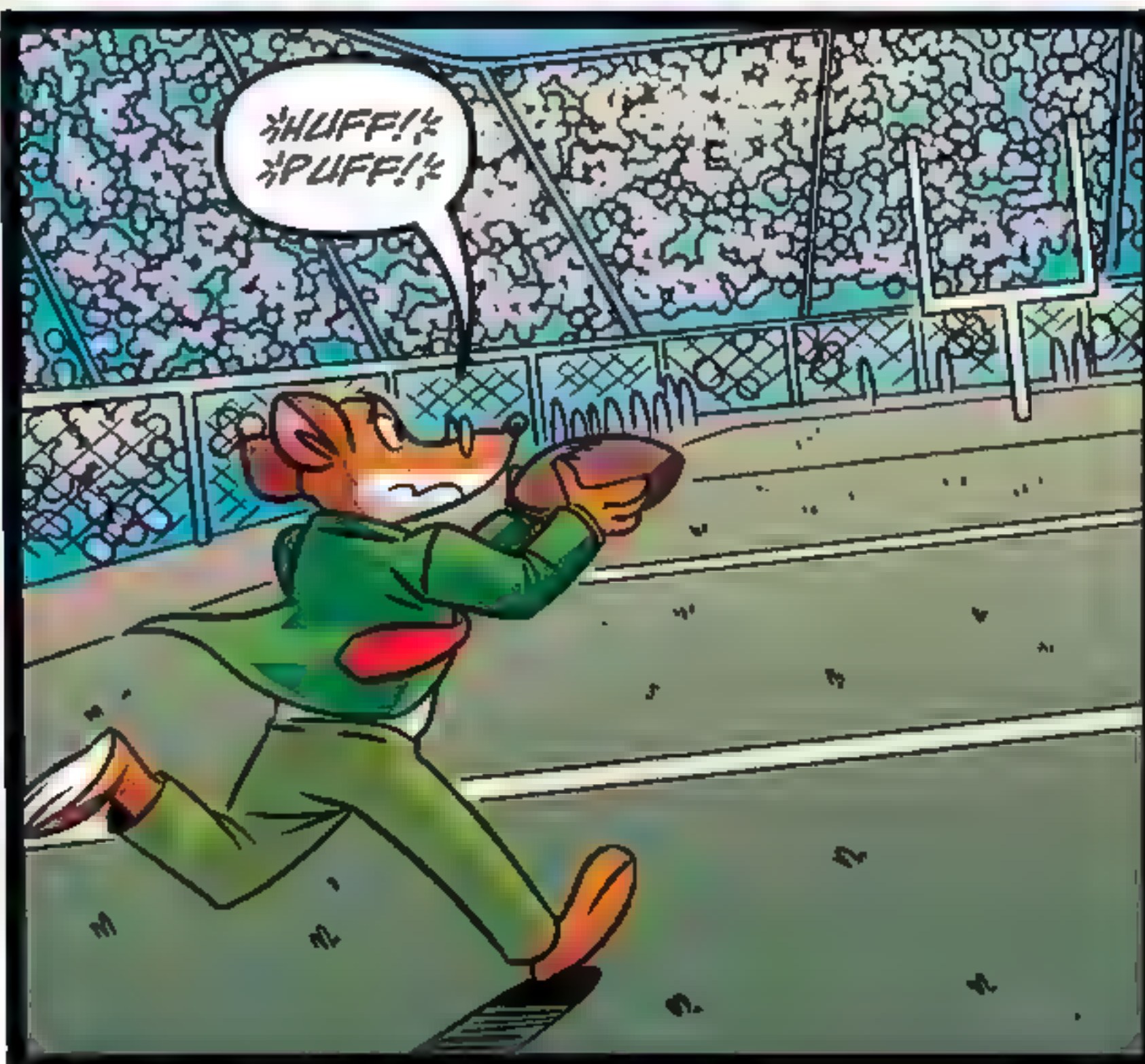




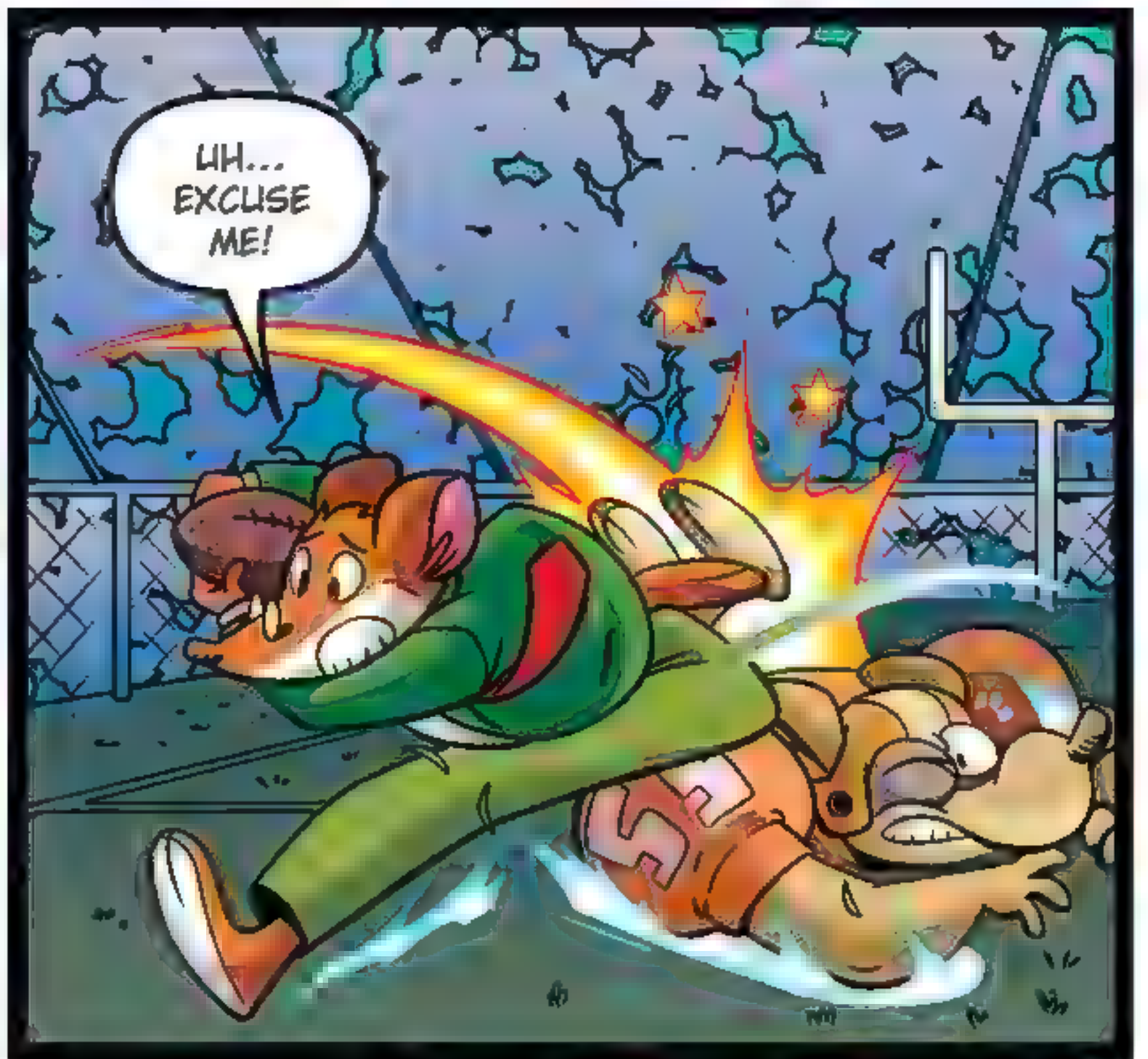








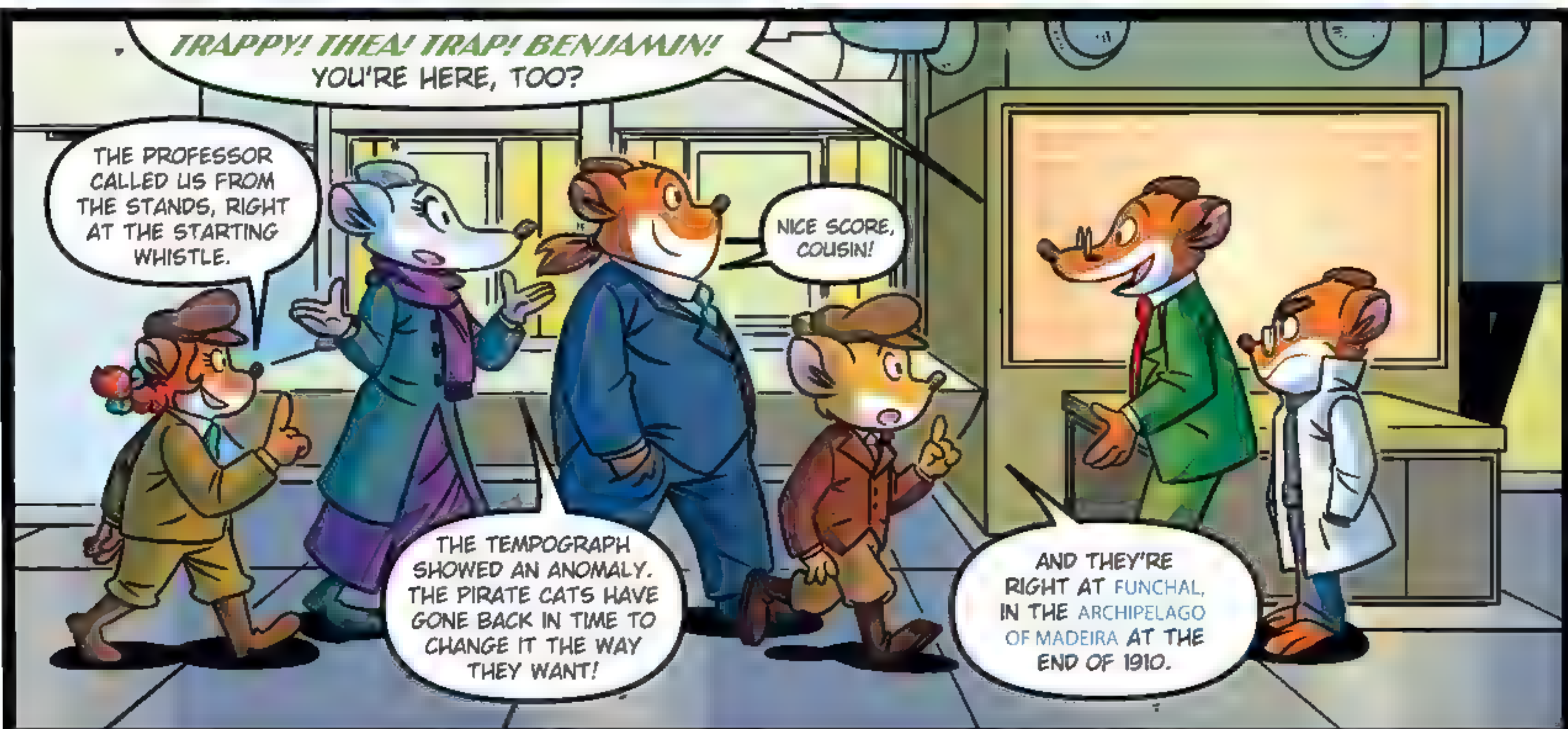




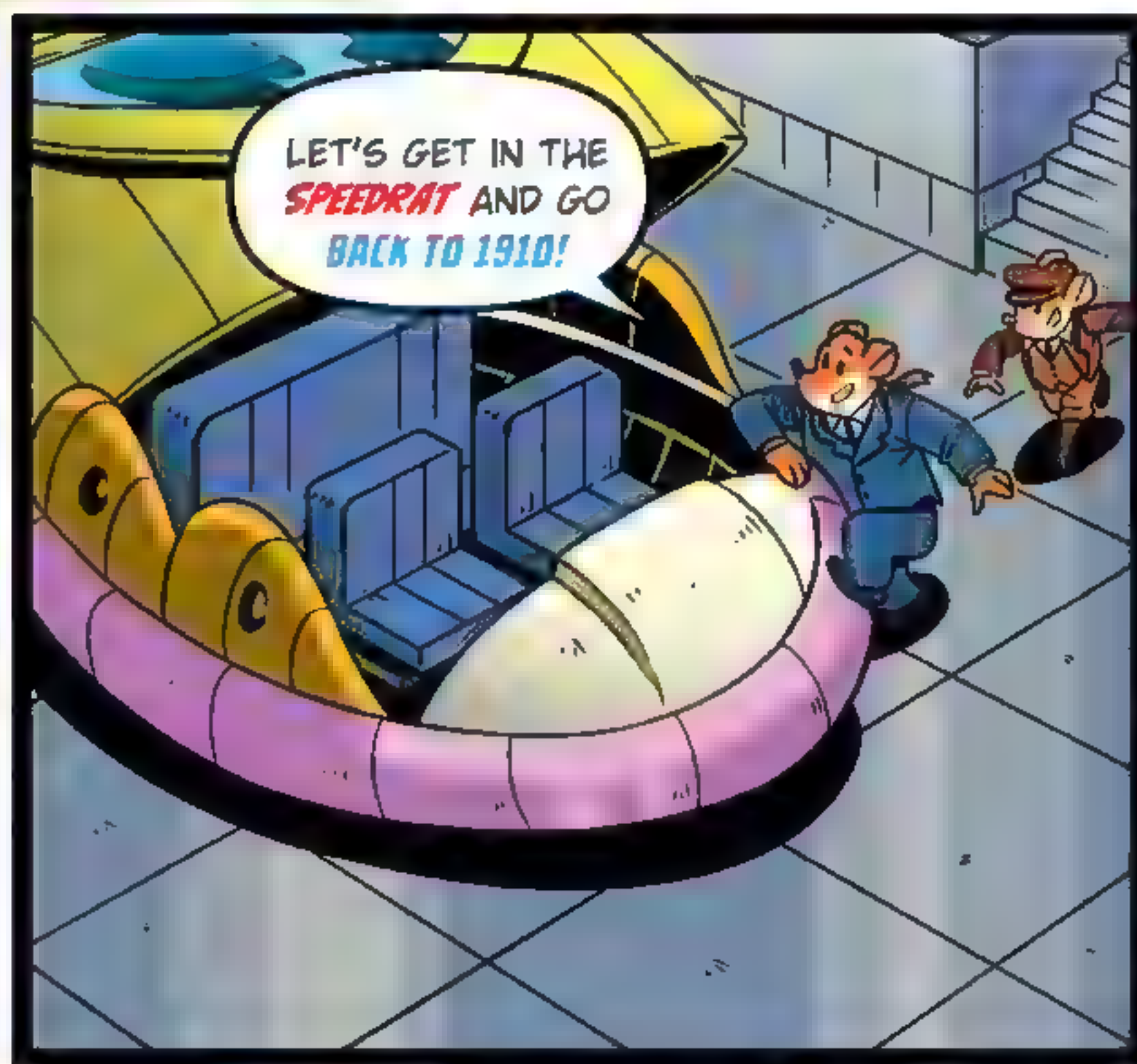
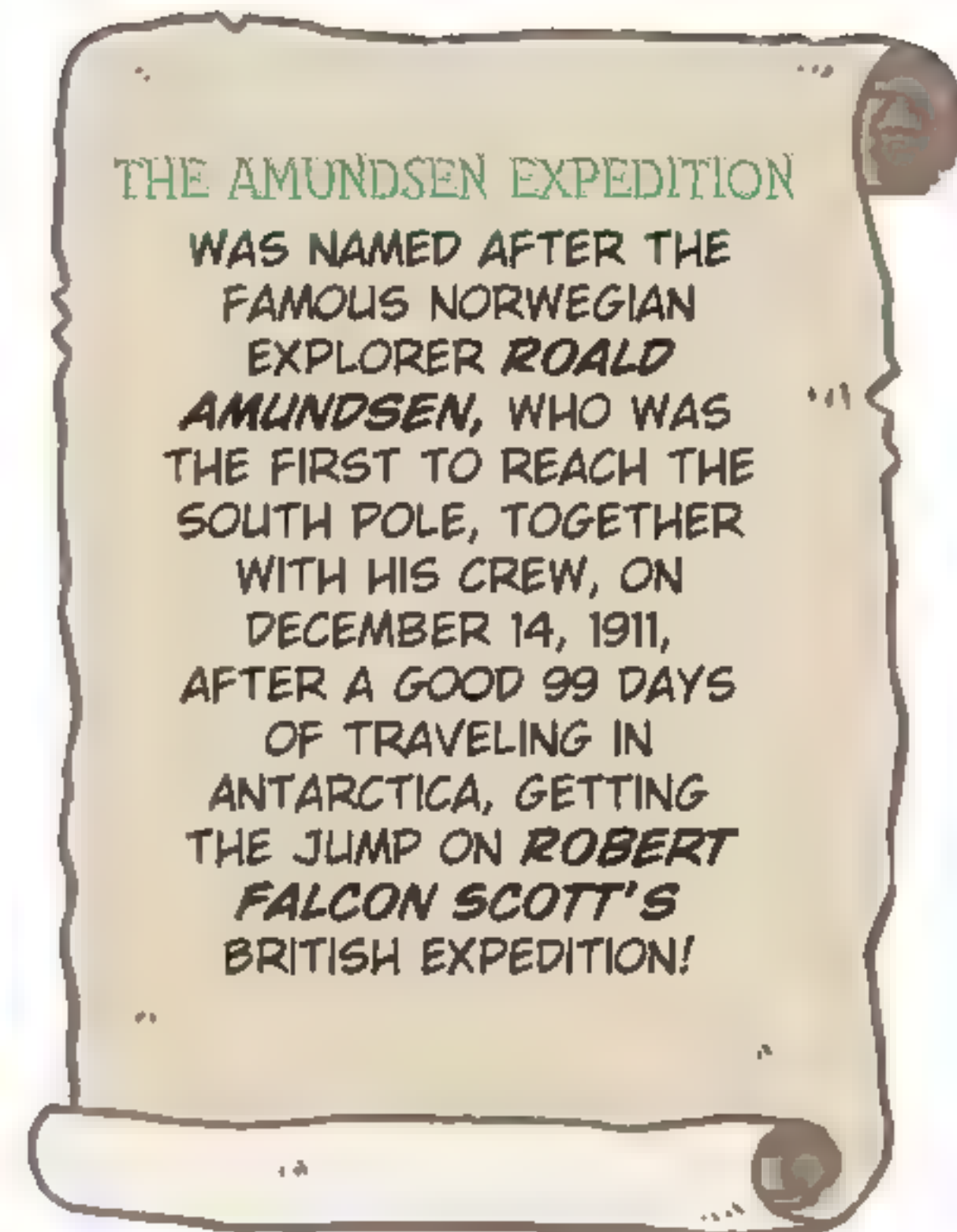














FUNCHAL, MADEIRA  
ARHIPELAGO, PORTUGAL,  
SEPTEMBER 8, 1910.

ALL WE HAD TO DO WAS  
GET TO ROALD AMUNDSEN  
BEFORE HE SET SAIL ON  
HIS SHIP AND TRY TO  
JOIN HIS MISSION...

AMUNDSEN REACHED THE ANTARCTIC  
CONTINENT ON HIS OWN SHIP, **THE FRAM**  
(THAT'S NORWEGIAN FOR: FORWARD),  
WHICH CARRIED HIM AND HIS CREW,  
AS WELL AS THE SLED DOGS AND  
ALL THE SUPPLIES NECESSARY FOR  
THE NEARLY TWO-YEAR JOURNEY.

LET'S  
HOPE THERE'S  
STILL TIME.

MAY  
I HELP  
YOU?

WE'D LIKE  
TO SPEAK WITH THE  
EXPLORER AMUNDSEN.  
THEY SAID HE'S  
STAYING HERE.

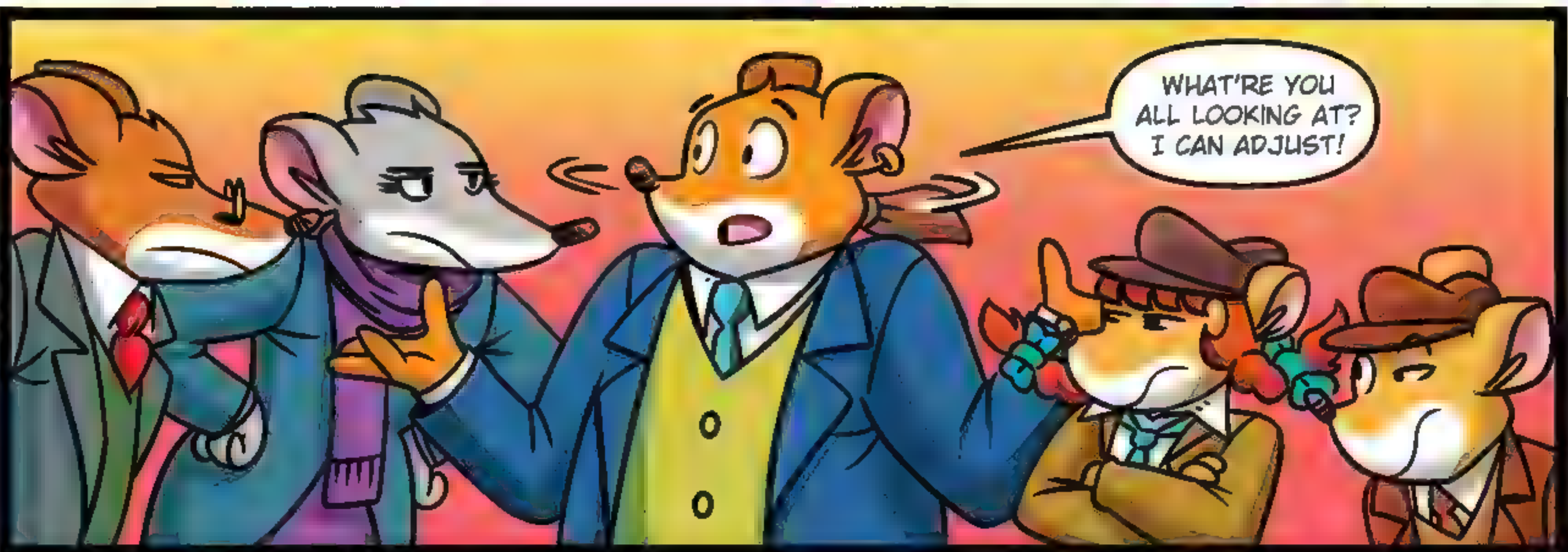
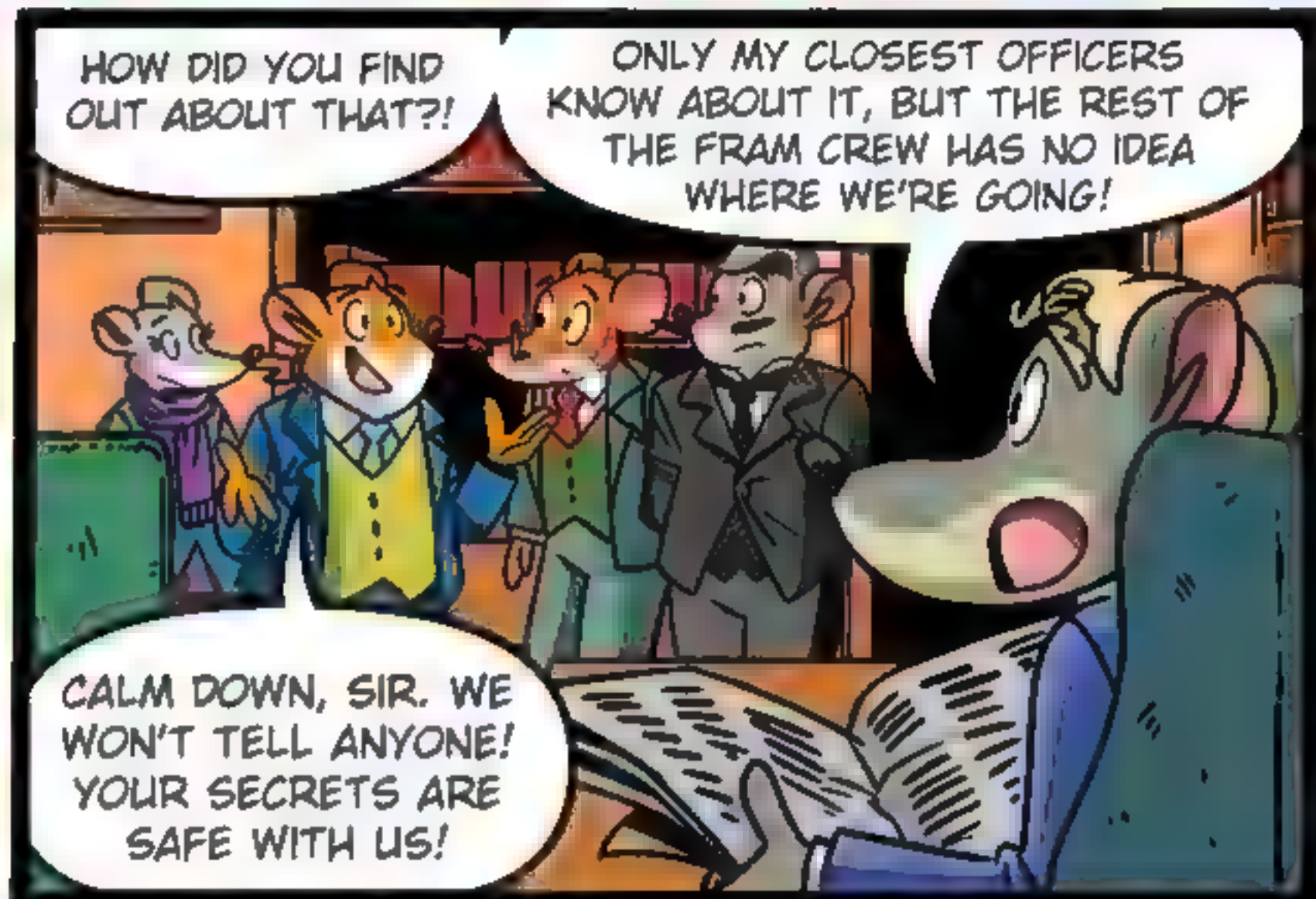
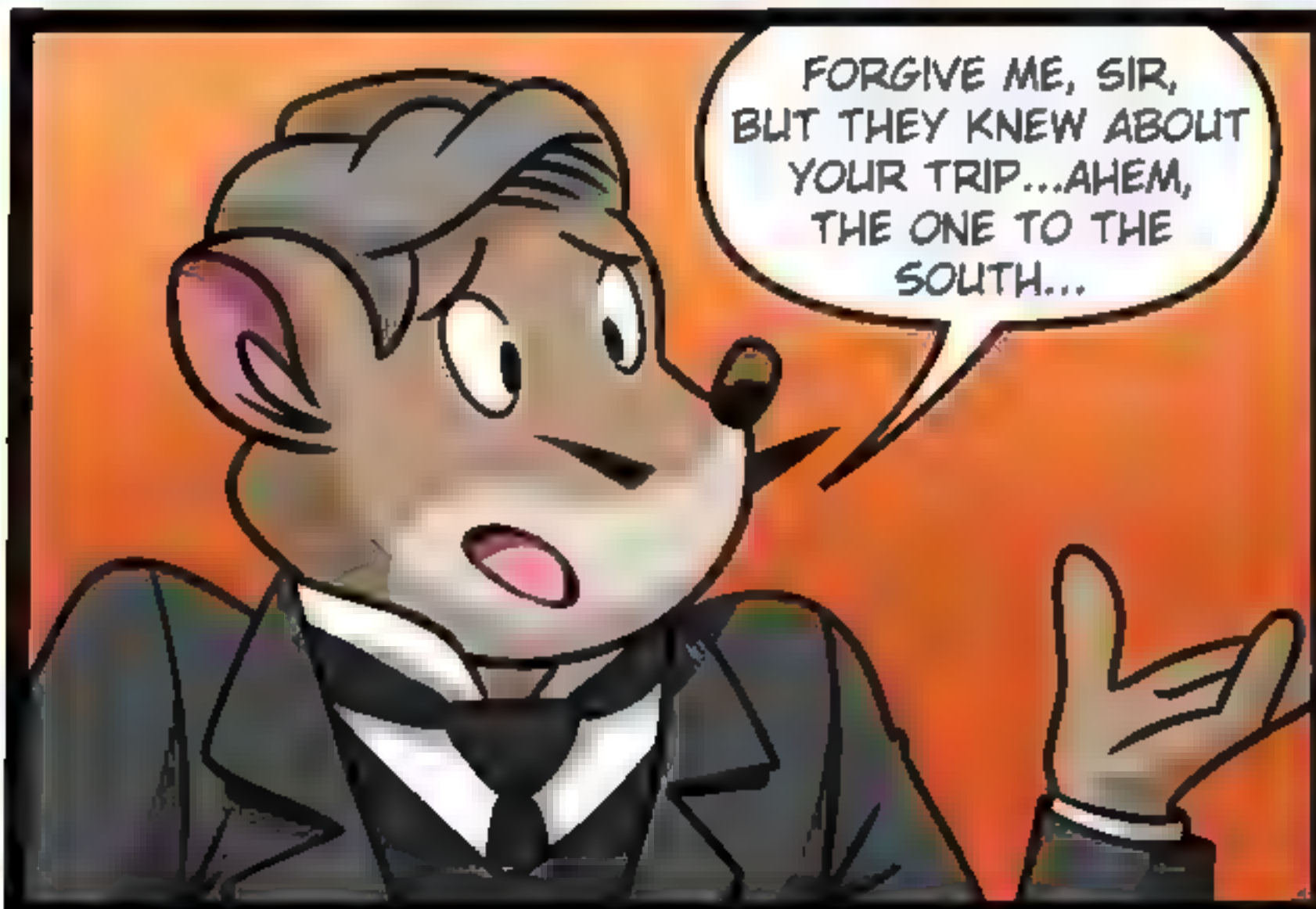
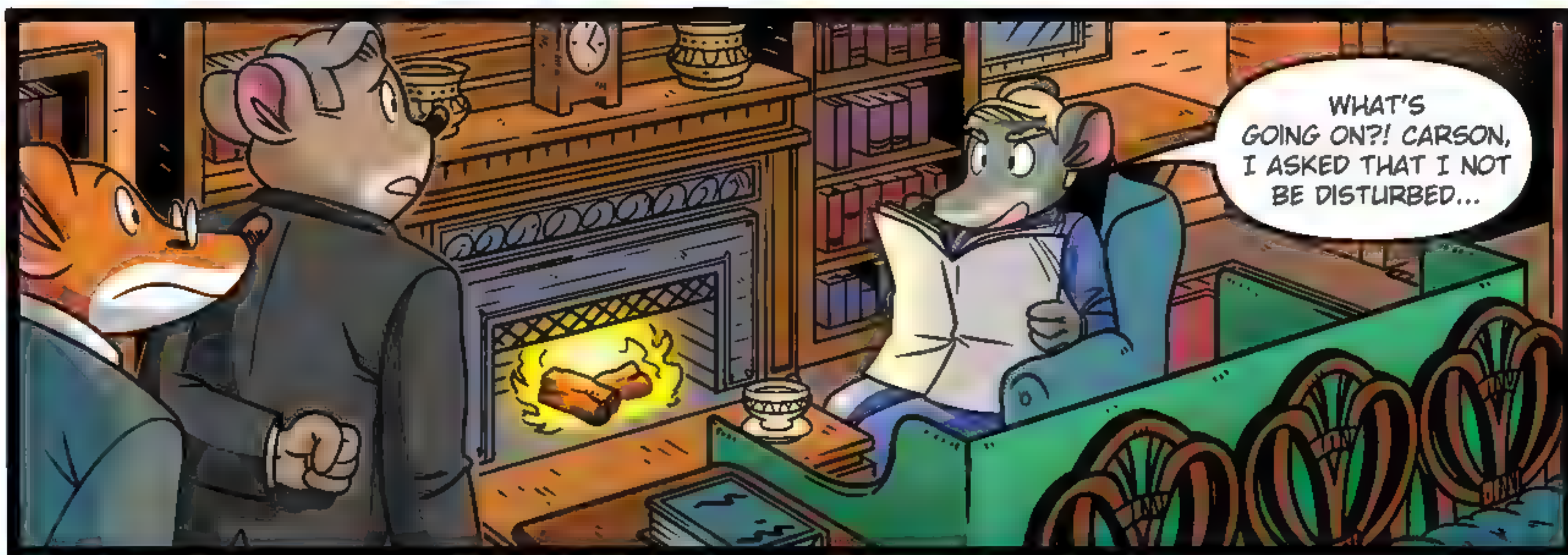
I'M SORRY,  
BUT MR. AMUNDSEN  
SAID HE DID NOT WISH  
TO BE DISTURBED.

TELL HIM THAT  
WE KNOW ABOUT HIS  
UPCOMING TRIP...  
TO THE **SOUTH**.

MMM...

COME  
IN....

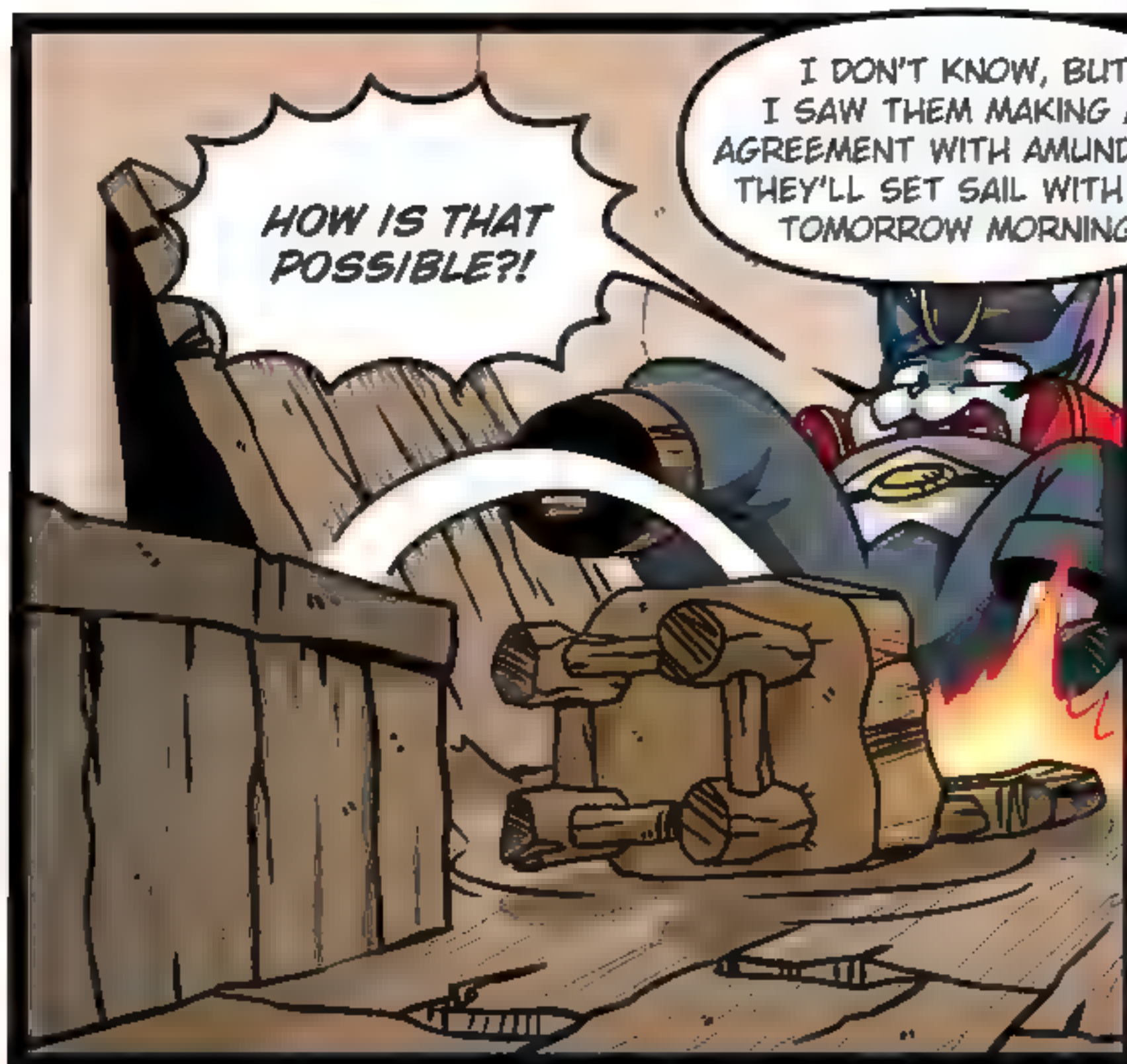












I DON'T KNOW, BUT I SAW THEM MAKING AN AGREEMENT WITH AMUNDSEN! THEY'LL SET SAIL WITH HIM TOMORROW MORNING!



SO MUCH FOR THE PLAN OF GETTING TO THE SOUTH POLE WITH HIM, AND THEN USURPING HIS SUCCESS!



ALL IS NOT LOST, HOWEVER!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, DADDY DEAR?



WE'LL TAKE THE CATJET AND JOIN ROBERT FALCON SCOTT'S BRITISH EXPEDITION!

THE ILL-FATED EXPEDITION OF BRITISH EXPLORER **ROBERT FALCON SCOTT** COMPETED WITH AMUNDSEN TO REACH THE SOUTH POLE FIRST. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY WERE BEATEN BY JUST A FEW WEEKS.



BUT IT WAS AMUNDSEN WHO GOT TO THE SOUTH POLE FIRST, SO WHAT GOOD DOES THAT DO?

WE'LL SABOTAGE AMUNDSEN'S EXPEDITION WITH THE TECHNOLOGY WE'VE BROUGHT BACK FROM THE FUTURE AND CLAIM THE SOUTH POLE FOR THE PIRATE CAT EMPIRE!

MY NAME WILL BE KNOWN IN EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE!





I'LL SHOW YOU THE ROUTE OF THE SHIP IF YOU'LL FOLLOW ME.

WE WERE ALMOST READY TO DEPART. WE WERE ONLY MISSING A FEW THINGS BEFORE THE START OF OUR ADVENTURE!



HERE'S THE MAP.

"WE'LL REACH THE BAY OF WHALES WITHIN FOUR MONTHS. FROM THERE, WE'LL ESTABLISH OUR FIRST BASE CAMP AND BEGIN OUR ROUTE IN STAGES."

"WE HAVE 52 HUSKIES WITH US FOR TRANSPORT AND 3 TONS OF SUPPLIES. I'VE TAKEN ALL THE VARIABLES INTO CONSIDERATION!"







FROM GERONIMO STILTON'S  
SHIPBOARD JOURNAL:  
Ever since we embarked, everything  
has proceeded according to plan...



Trap immediately made friends with  
the rest of the crew; in the end, he knows  
how to make himself useful during the  
long boring hours of a trip...

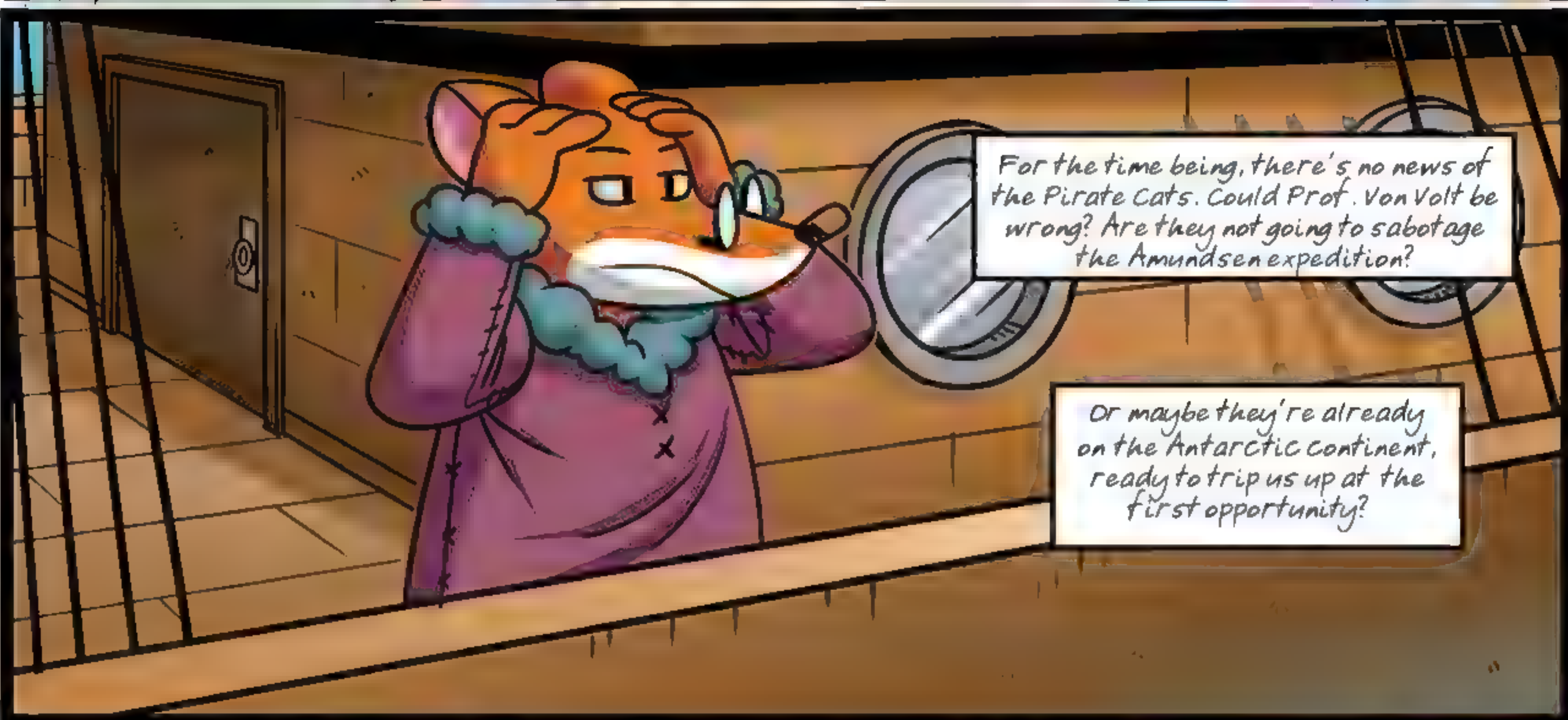
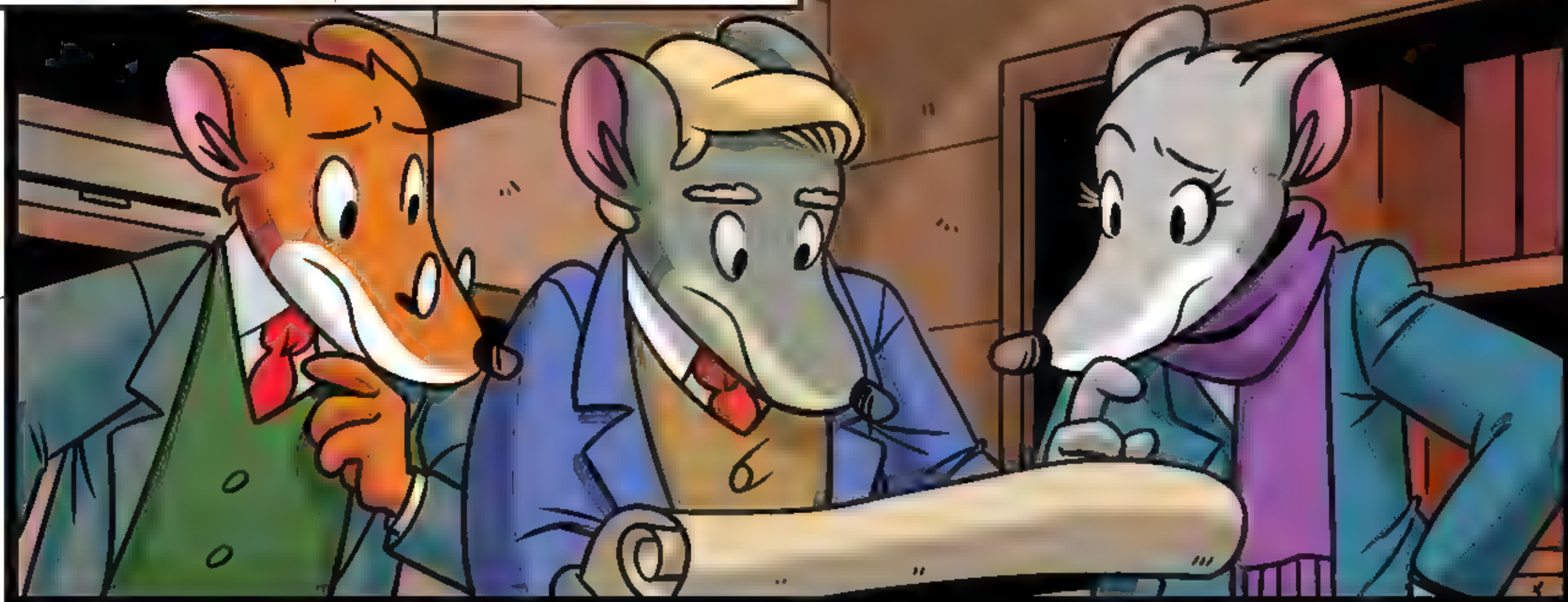


Benjamin and Trappy take care of the  
sled dogs. They have to arrive in good  
health at the end of the journey and  
are an essential resource...



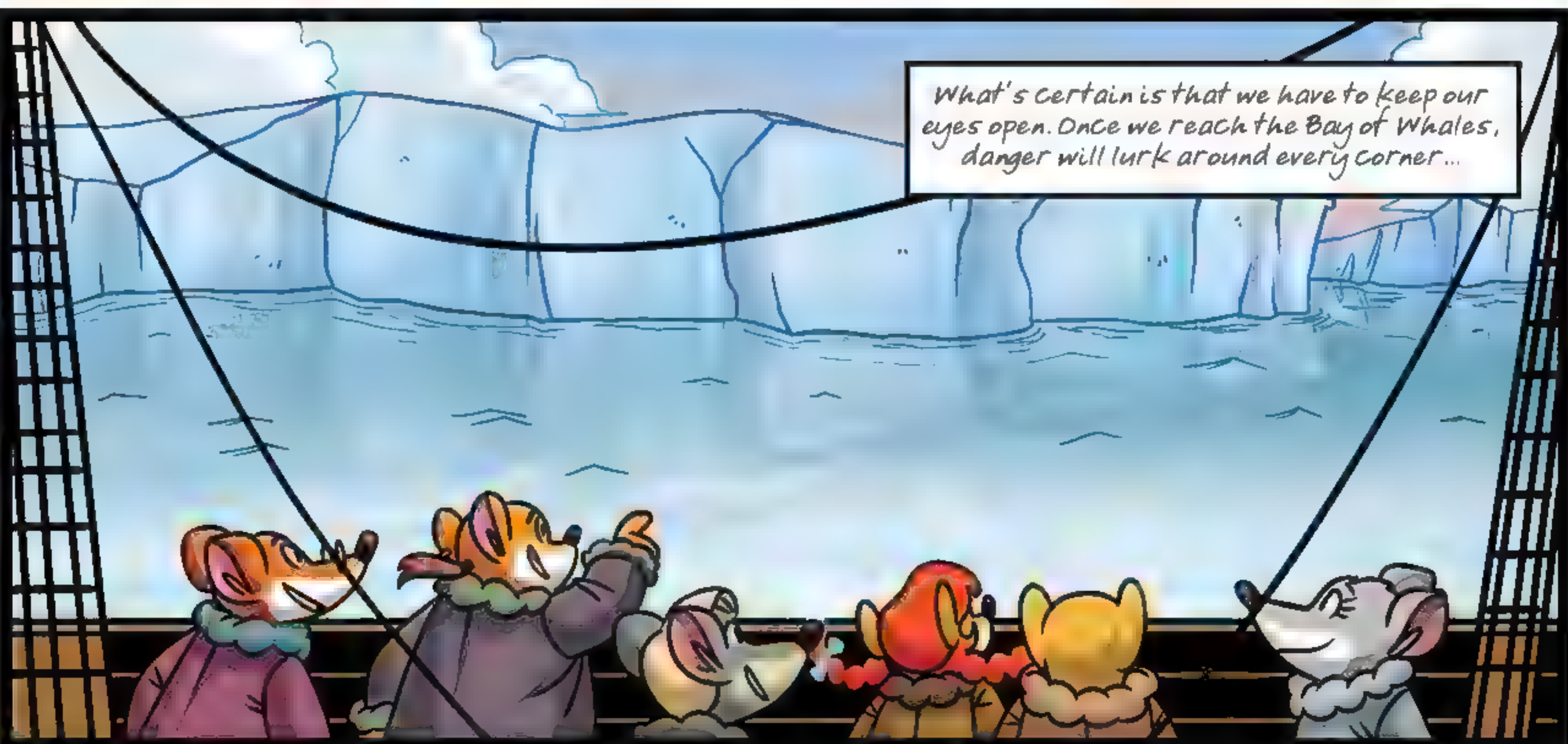


Thea and I are helping Amundsen manage the supplies. We haven't gotten any updates from Norway, the explorer's homeland, and we don't know how the news of our trip was received...



For the time being, there's no news of the Pirate Cats. Could Prof. Von Volt be wrong? Are they not going to sabotage the Amundsen expedition?

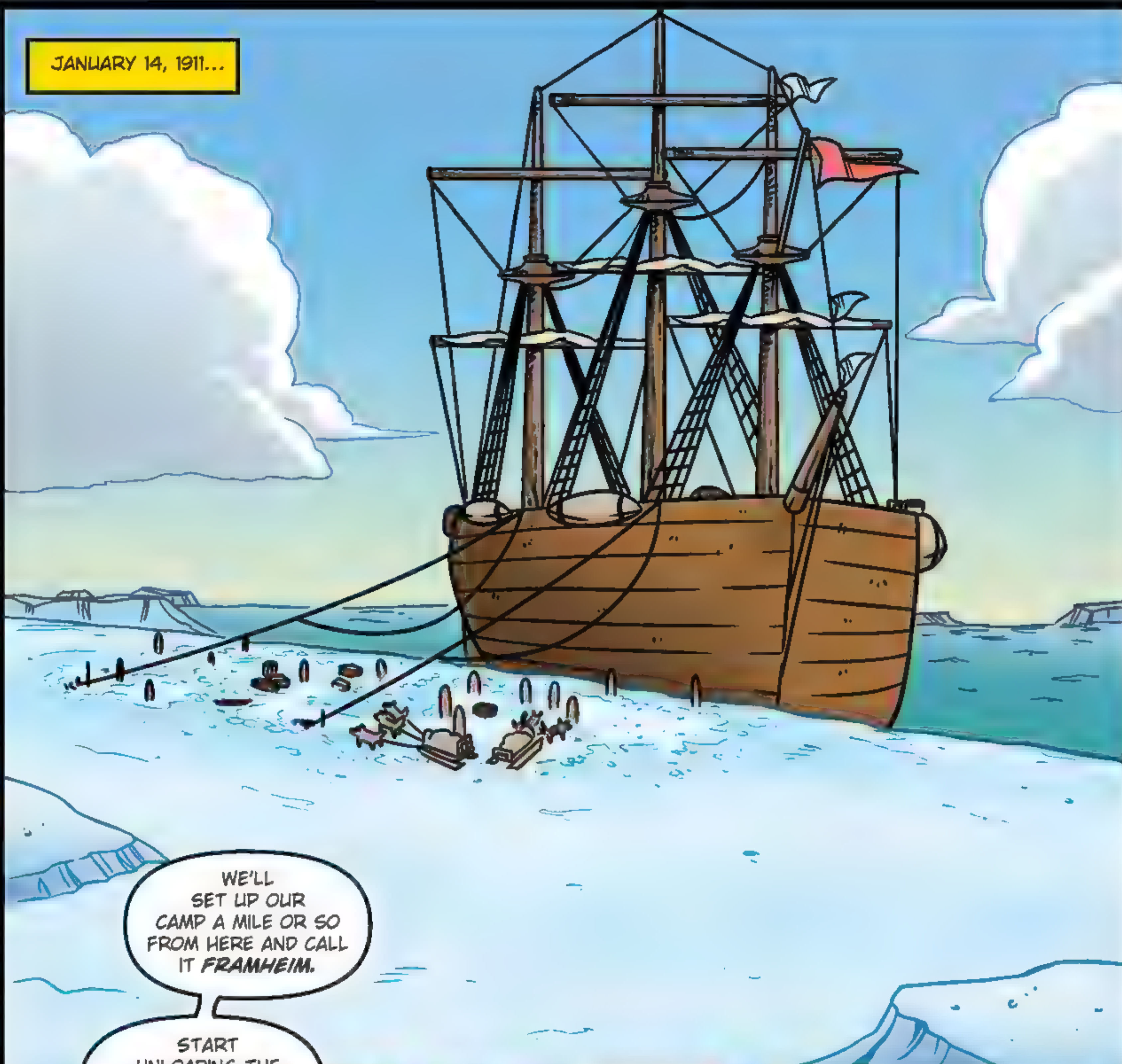
Or maybe they're already on the Antarctic continent, ready to trip us up at the first opportunity?



What's certain is that we have to keep our eyes open. Once we reach the Bay of Whales, danger will lurk around every corner...



JANUARY 14, 1911...



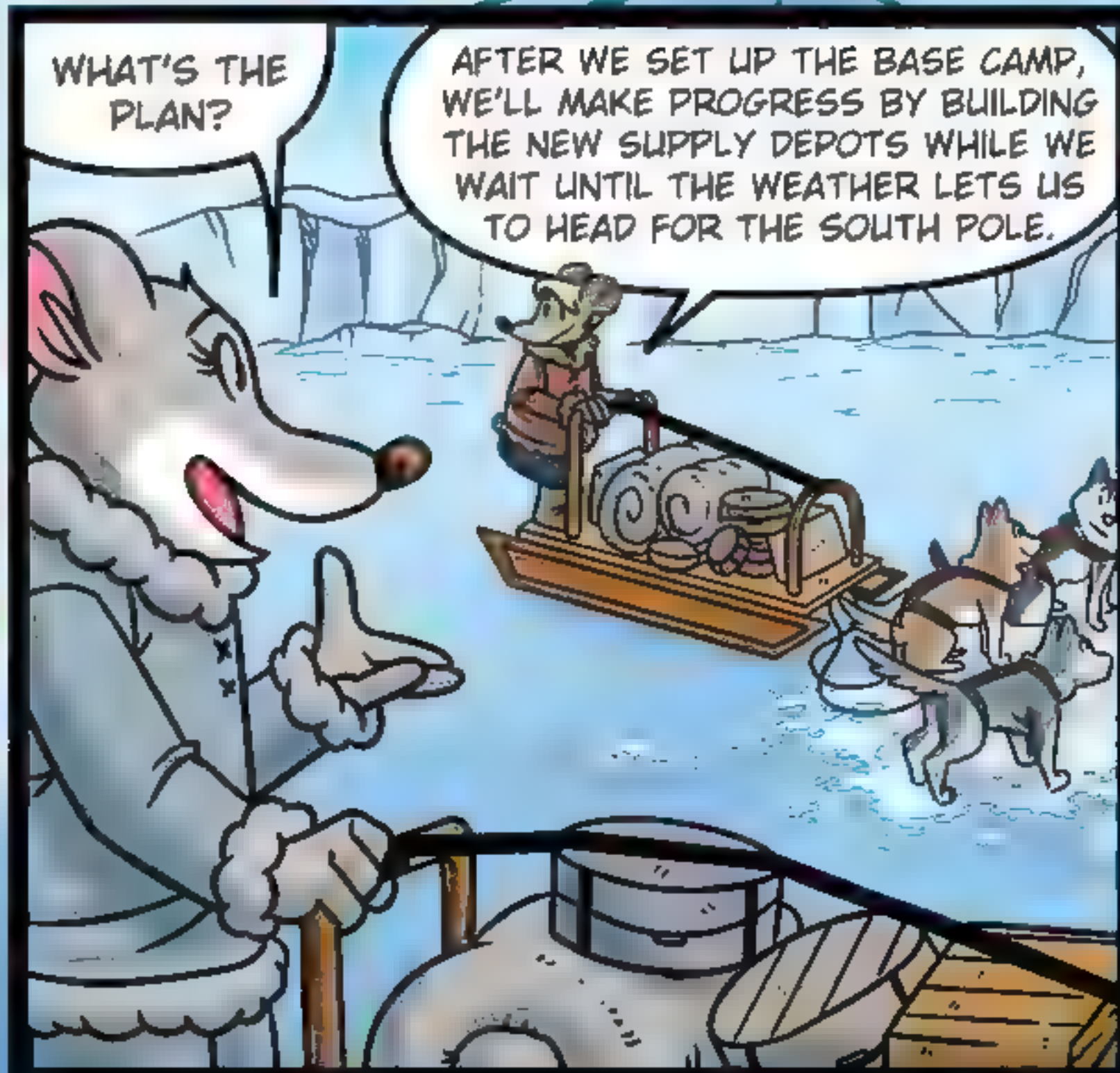
WE'LL  
SET UP OUR  
CAMP A MILE OR SO  
FROM HERE AND CALL  
IT *FRAMHEIM*.

START  
UNLOADING THE  
SHIPS AND PREPARING  
TO TRANSPORT  
THE SUPPLIES!

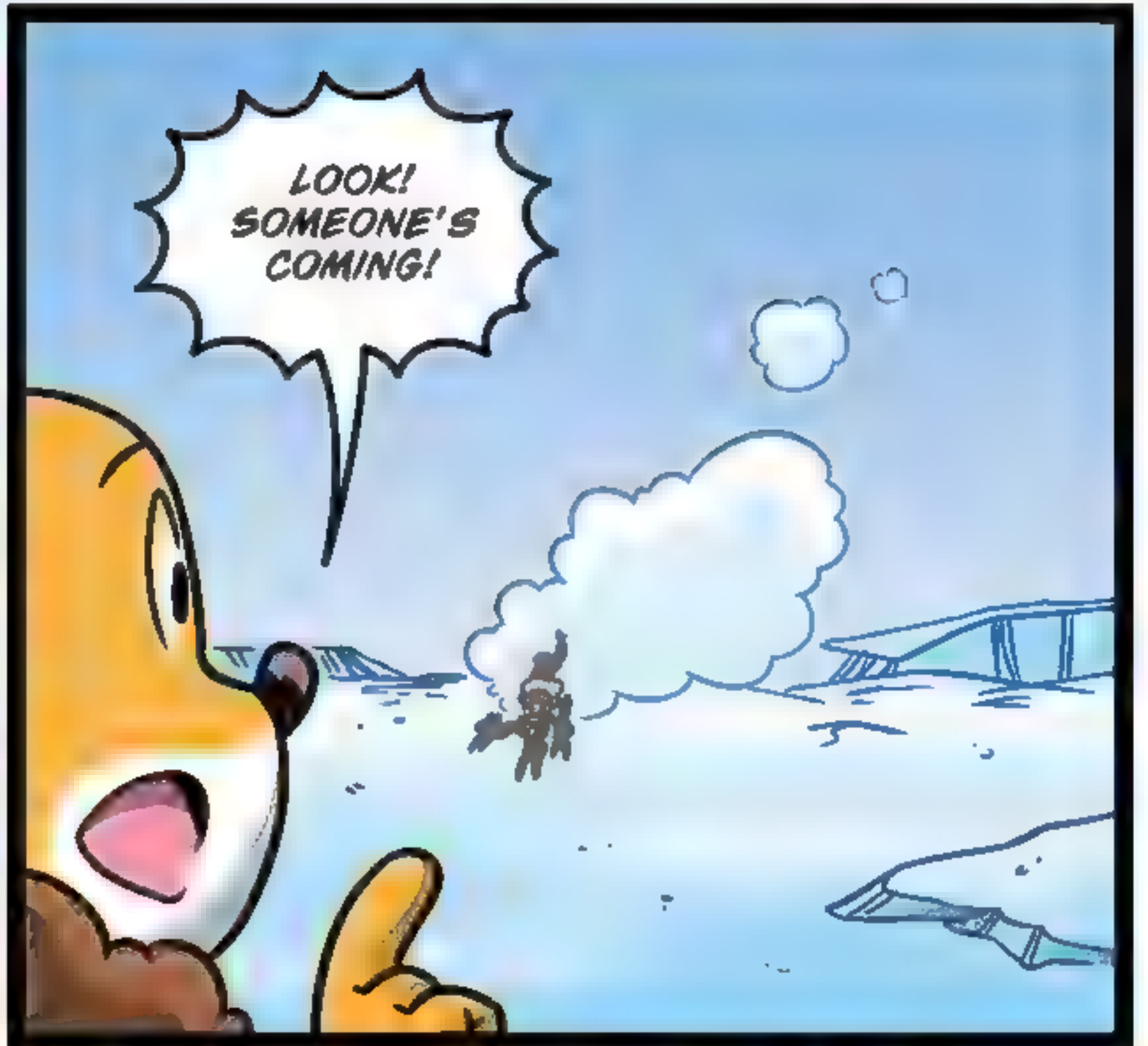


WHAT'S THE  
PLAN?

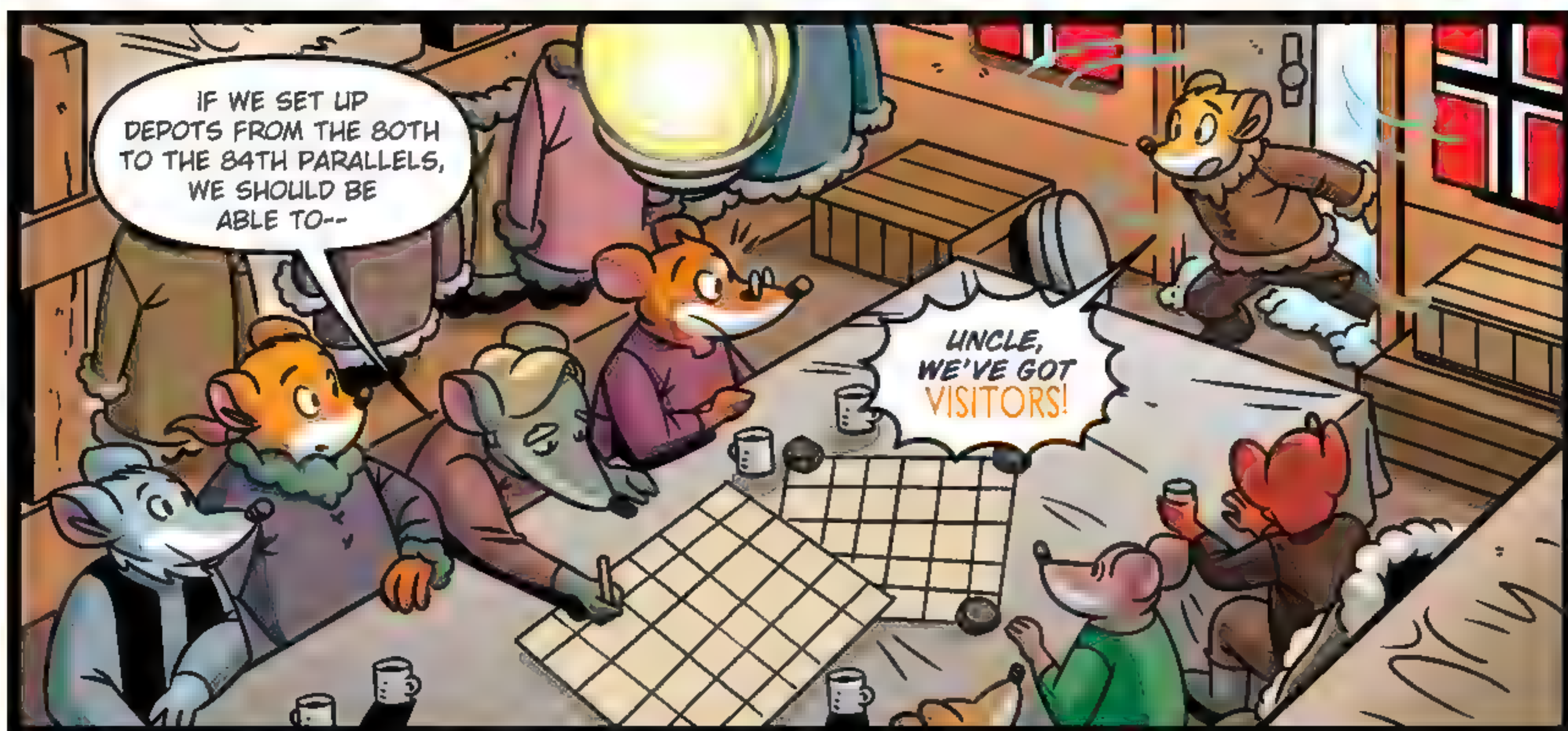
AFTER WE SET UP THE BASE CAMP,  
WE'LL MAKE PROGRESS BY BUILDING  
THE NEW SUPPLY DEPOTS WHILE WE  
WAIT UNTIL THE WEATHER LETS US  
TO HEAD FOR THE SOUTH POLE.











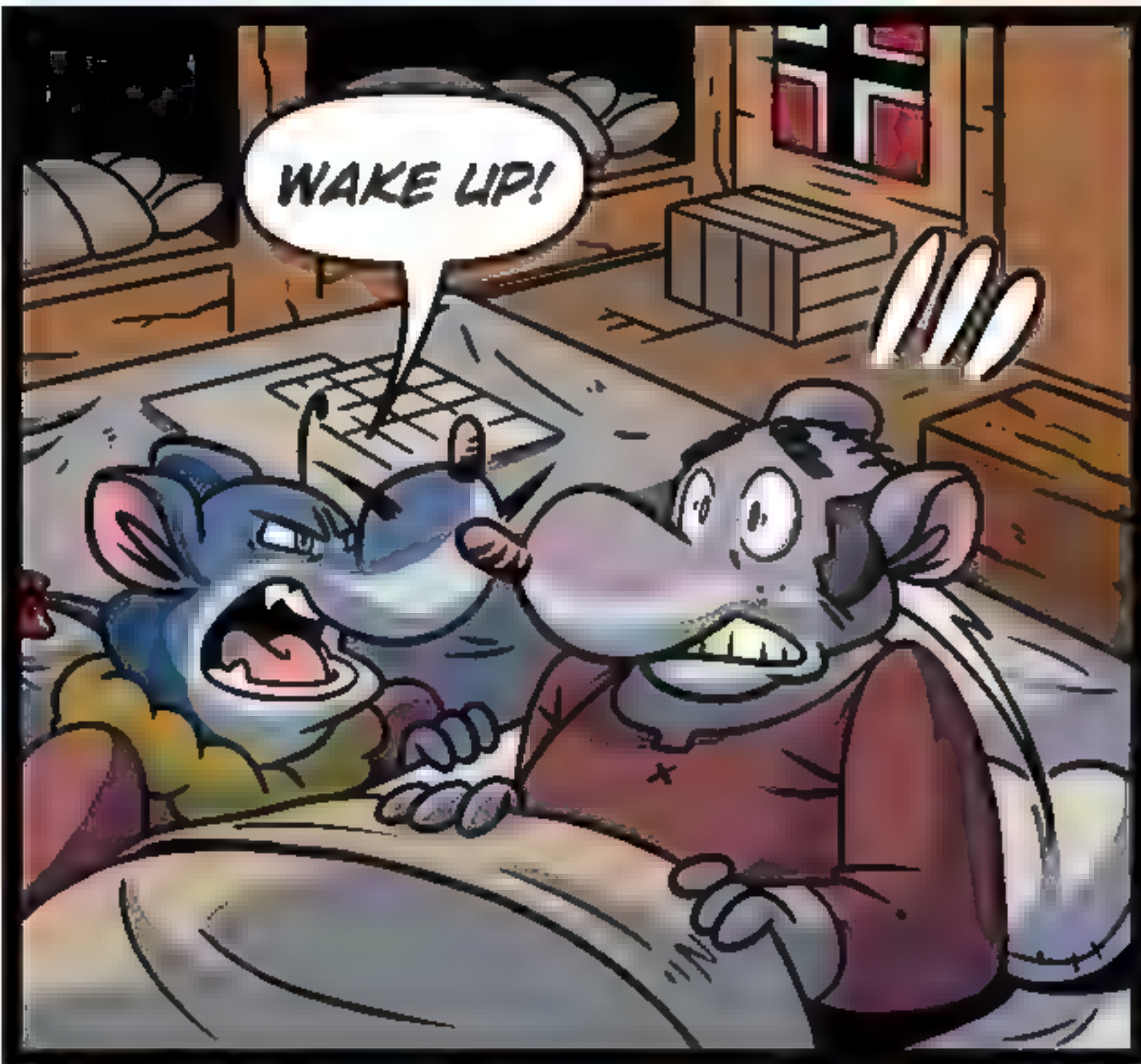
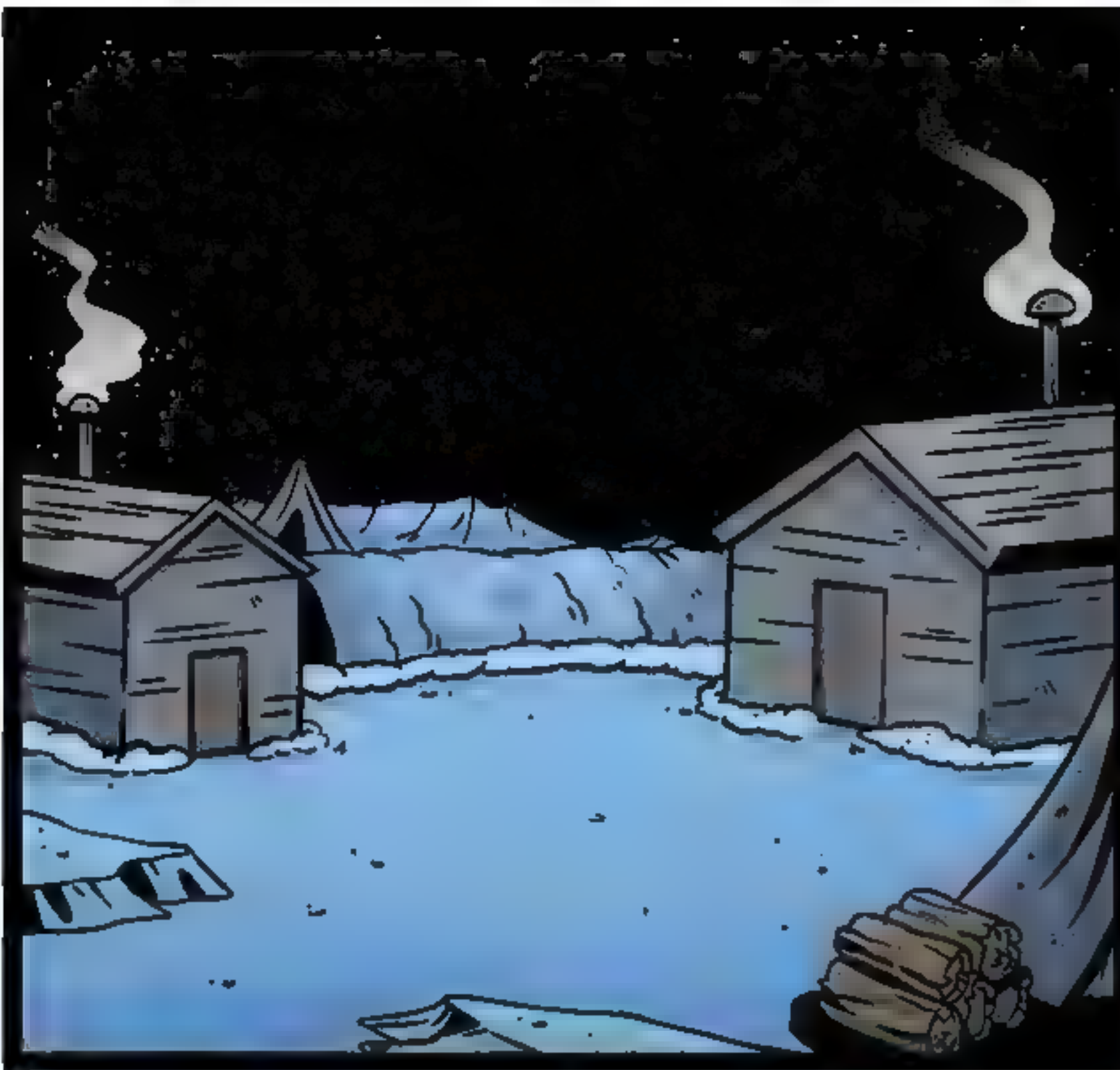




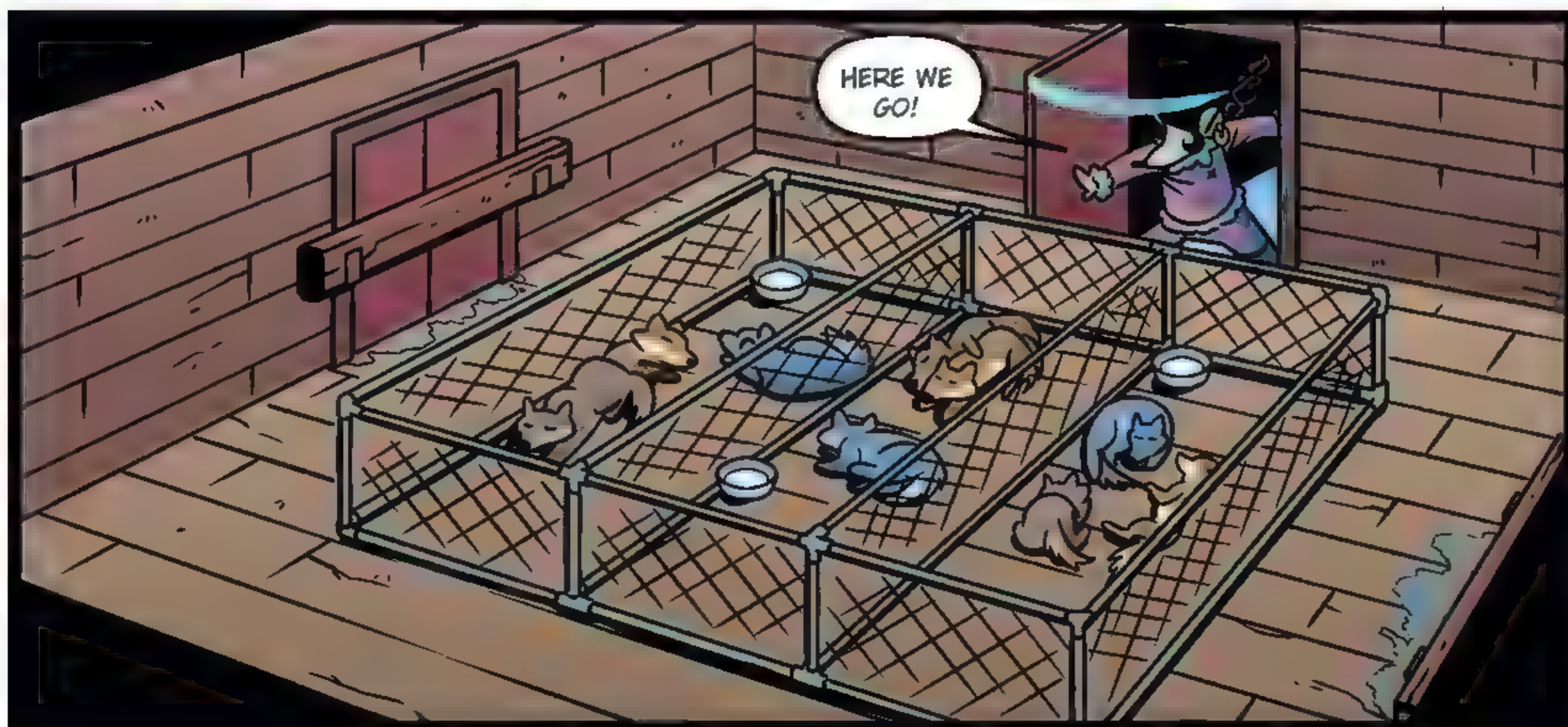








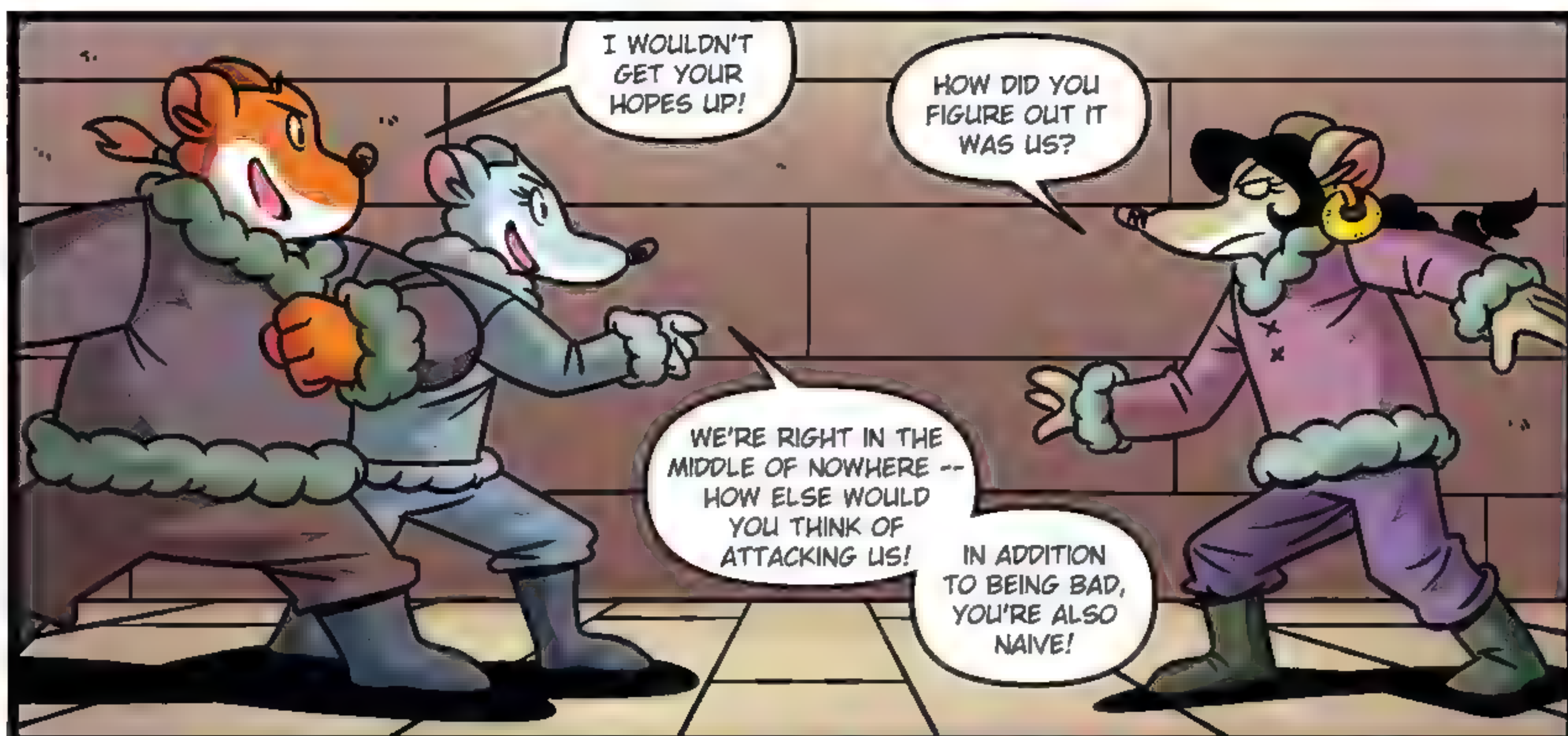




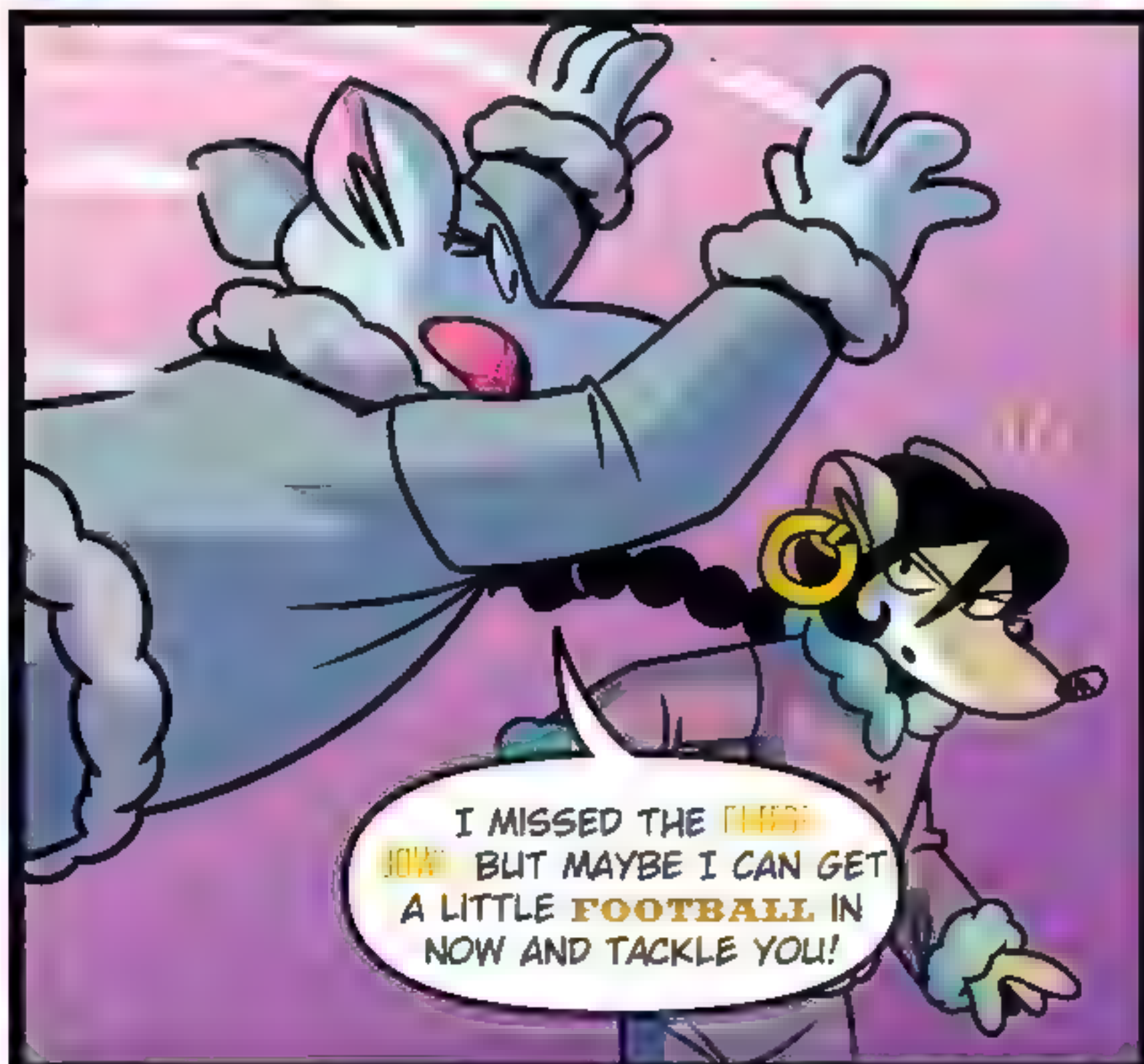
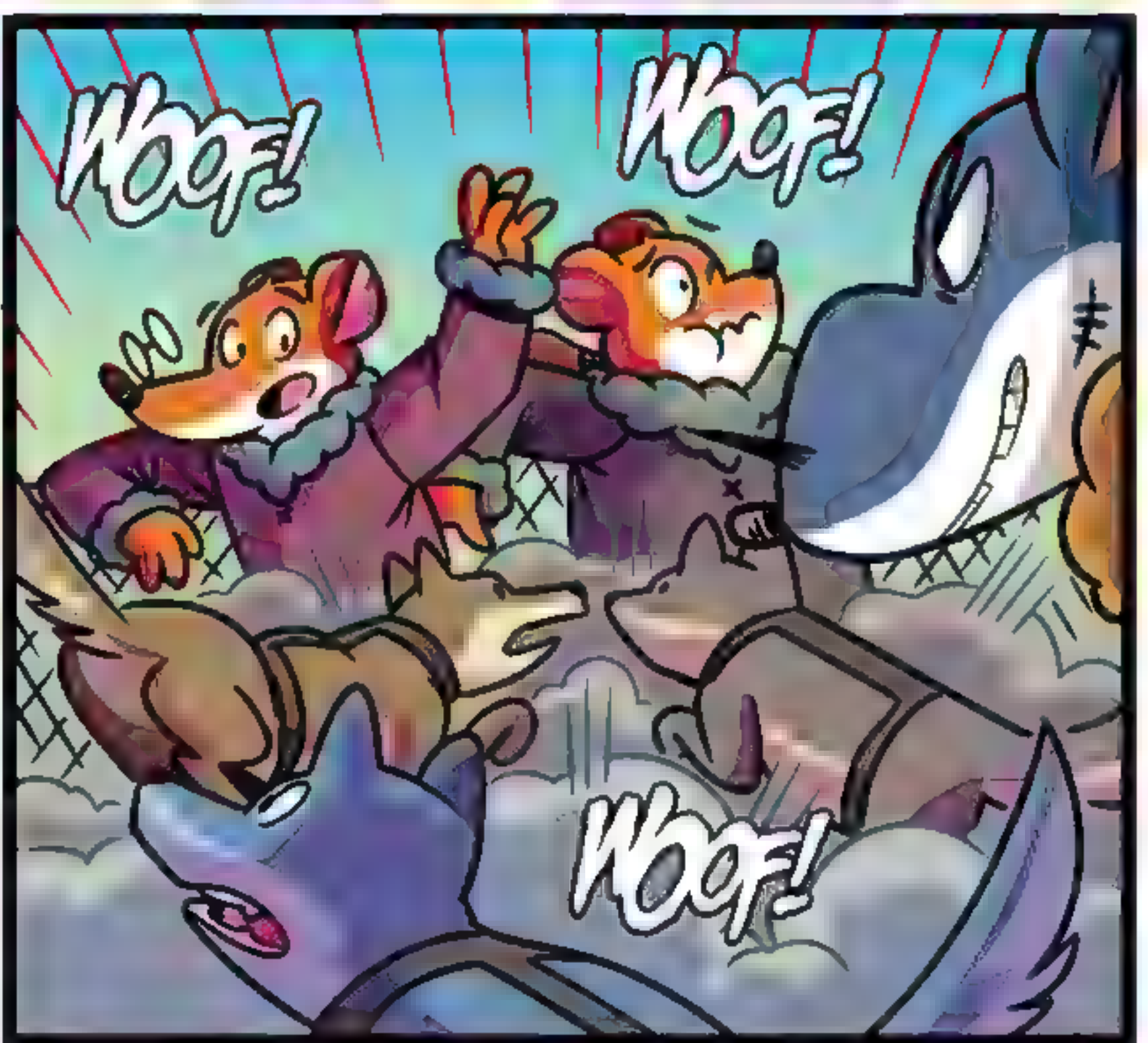




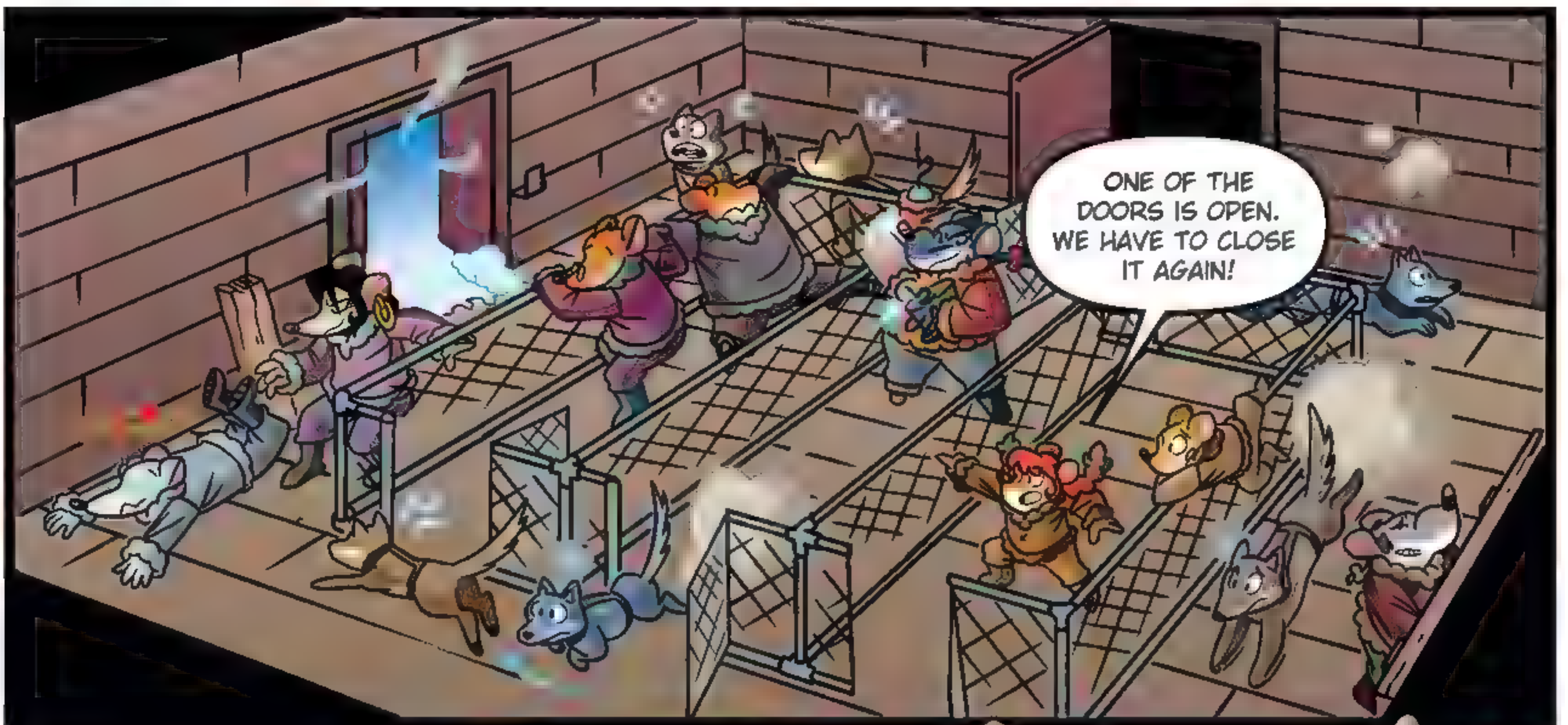












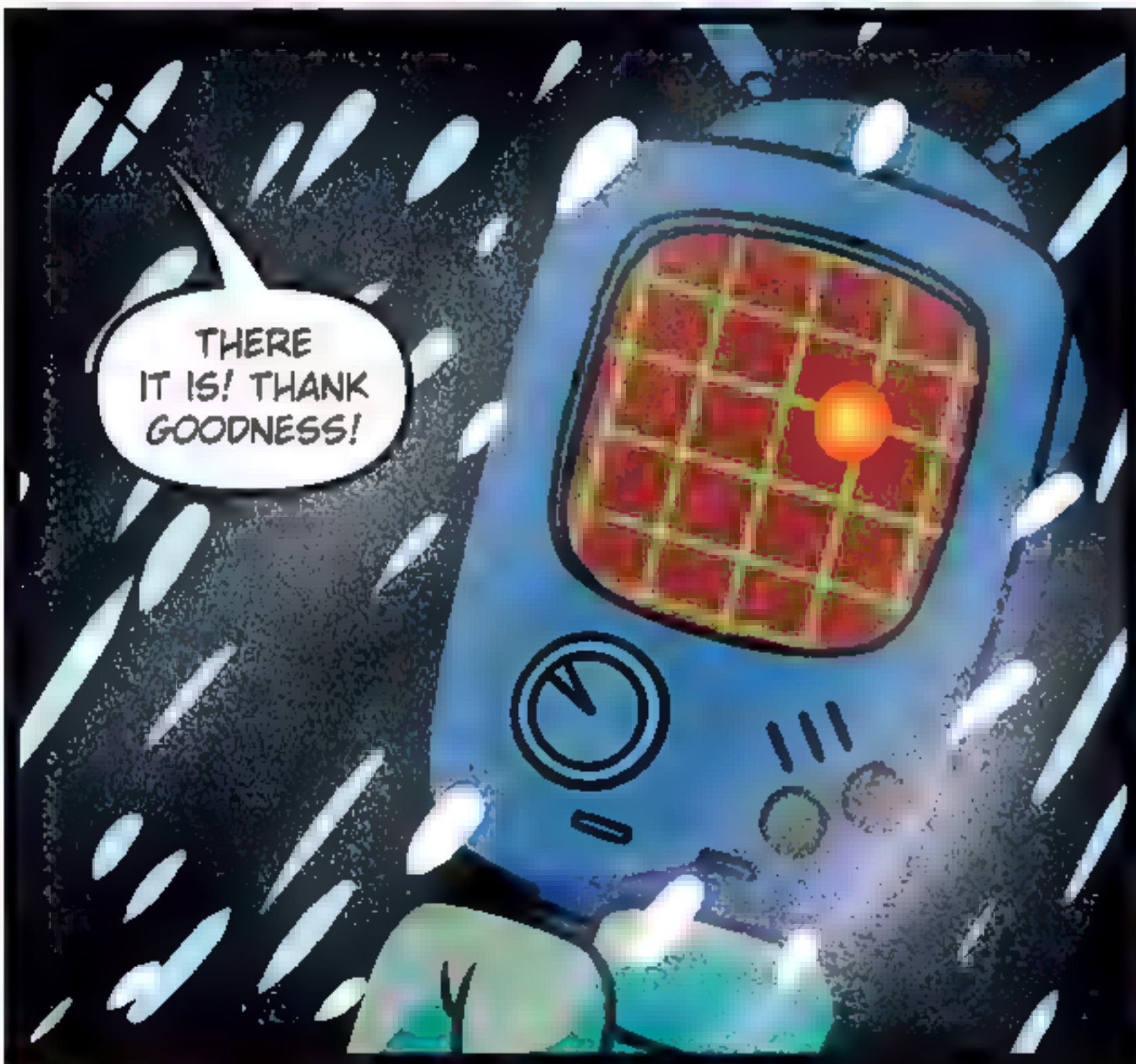


















OCTOBER 19, 1911...

We've finally left on the land journey that will take us to the South Pole. We'll cross the Ross Ice Shelf to head to the next depots.

In Amundsen's opinion, it will take us 100 days to reach our goal, and I know he's right.

The problem is we don't know when or if the Pirate Cats will try to attack us...

The setting doesn't lend itself very much to ambushes, but we have to keep our eyes open...



NOVEMBER 15, 1911...

We've arrived at the shelter at the 85th parallel. Today we've been given a rest day to admire THE TRANSANTARCTIC MOUNTAINS...

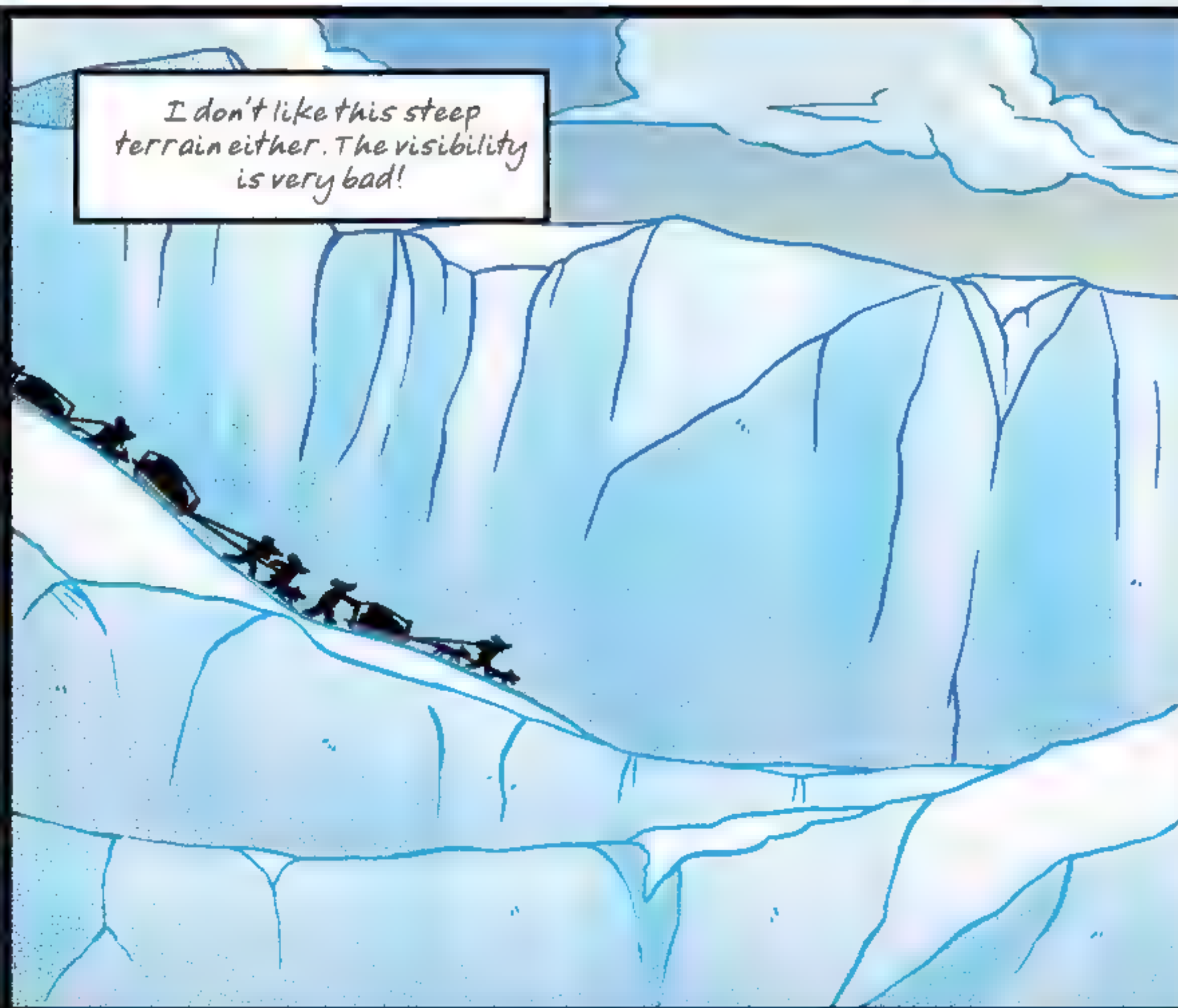


Luckily, the dogs have shown themselves to be reliable and tireless, and the sleds are easy to handle even in the worst conditions.

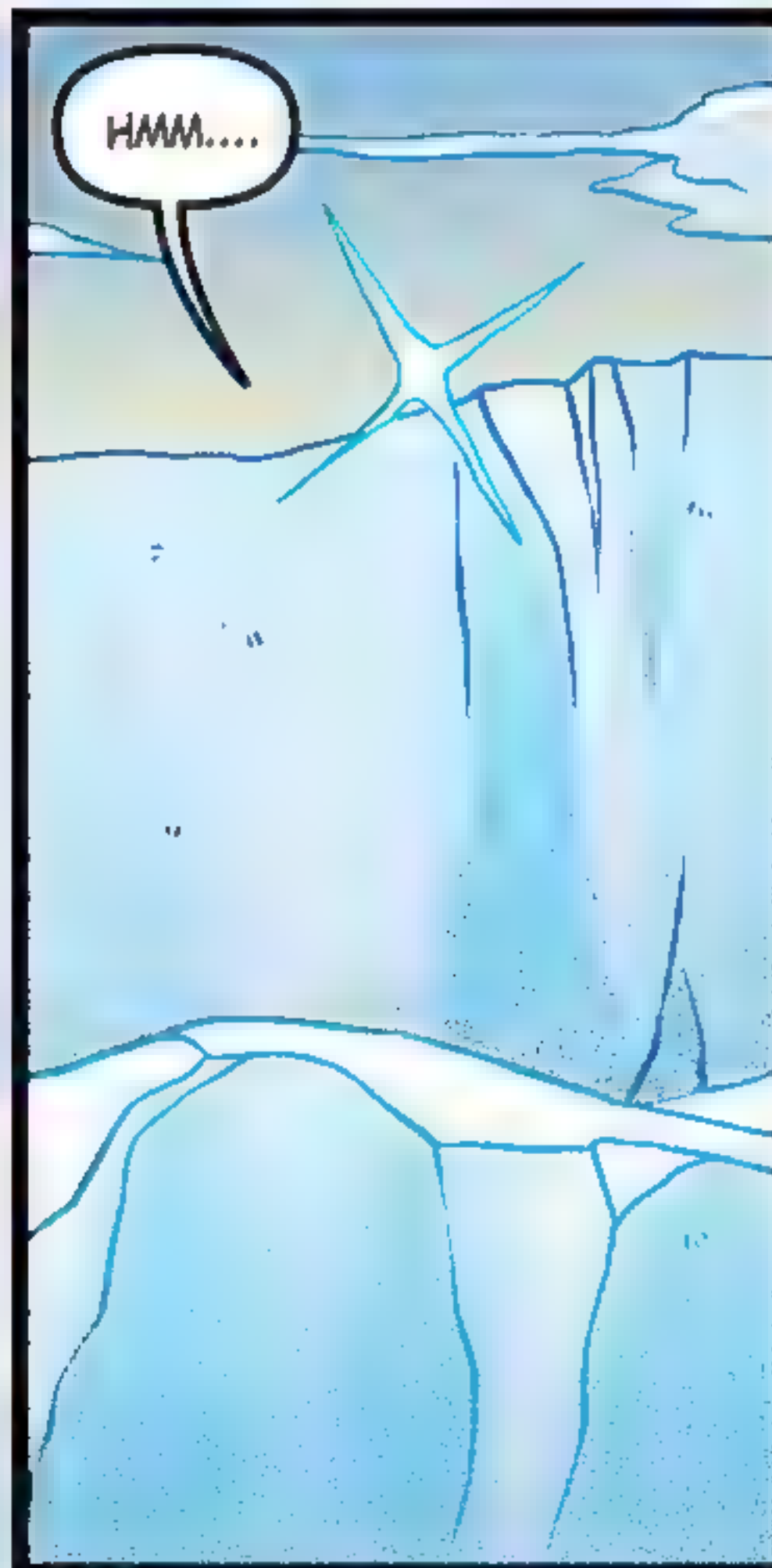
FROM NOW ON, WE'LL HAVE TO PROCEED ON FOOT IN THIS AREA: IT'S FULL OF CREVASSES WE RUN THE RISK OF FALLING INTO.



I don't like this steep terrain either. The visibility is very bad!



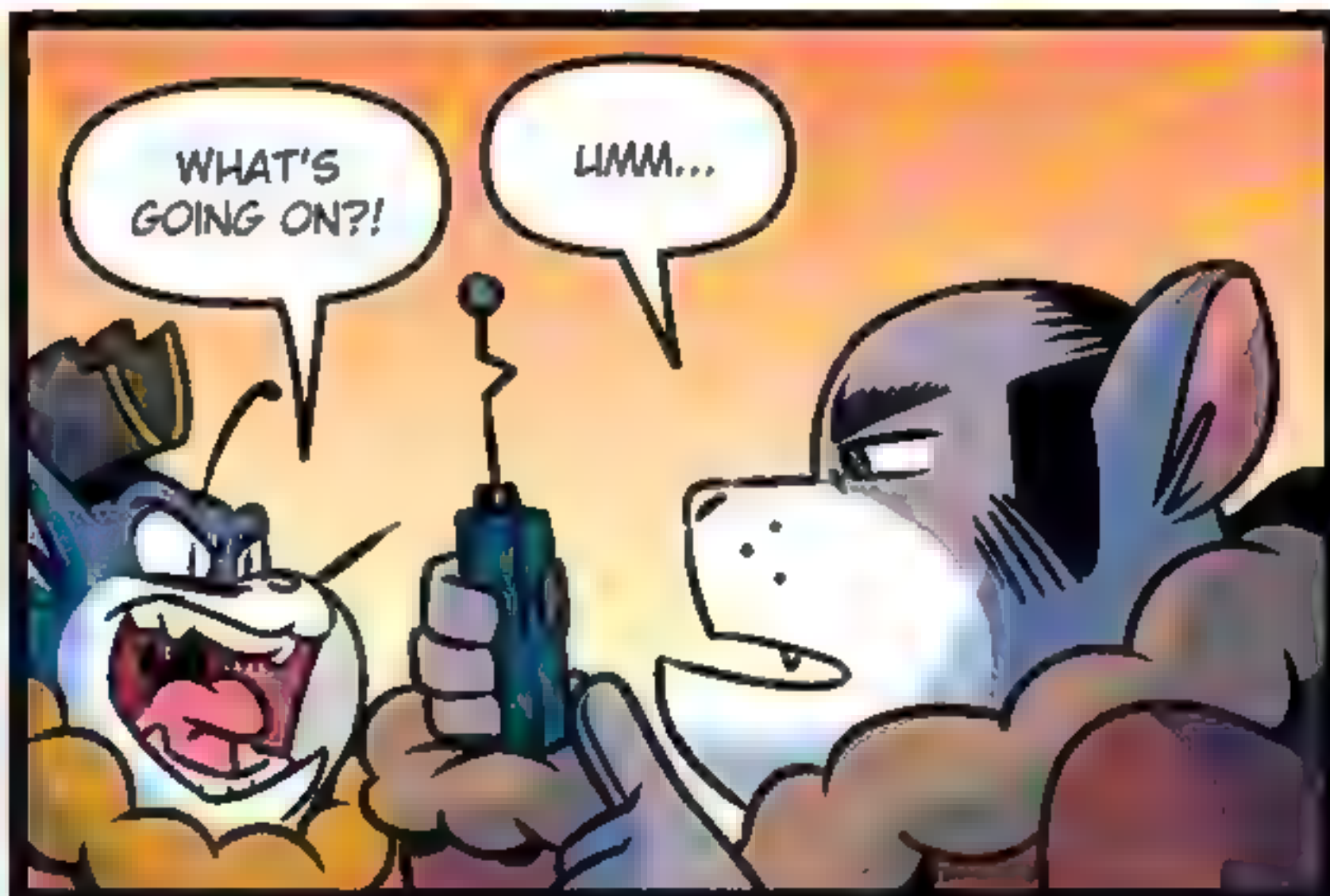
HMM....







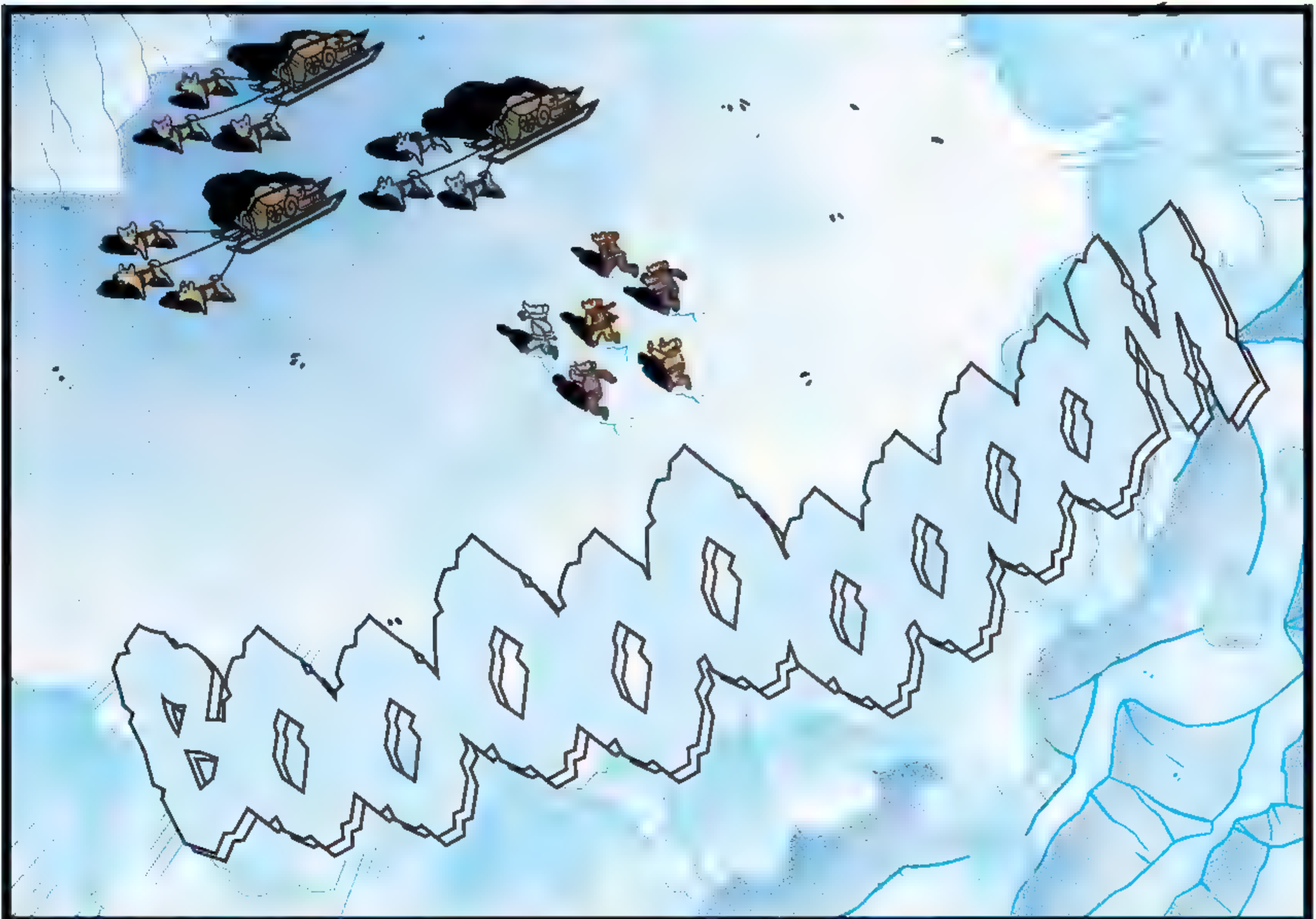




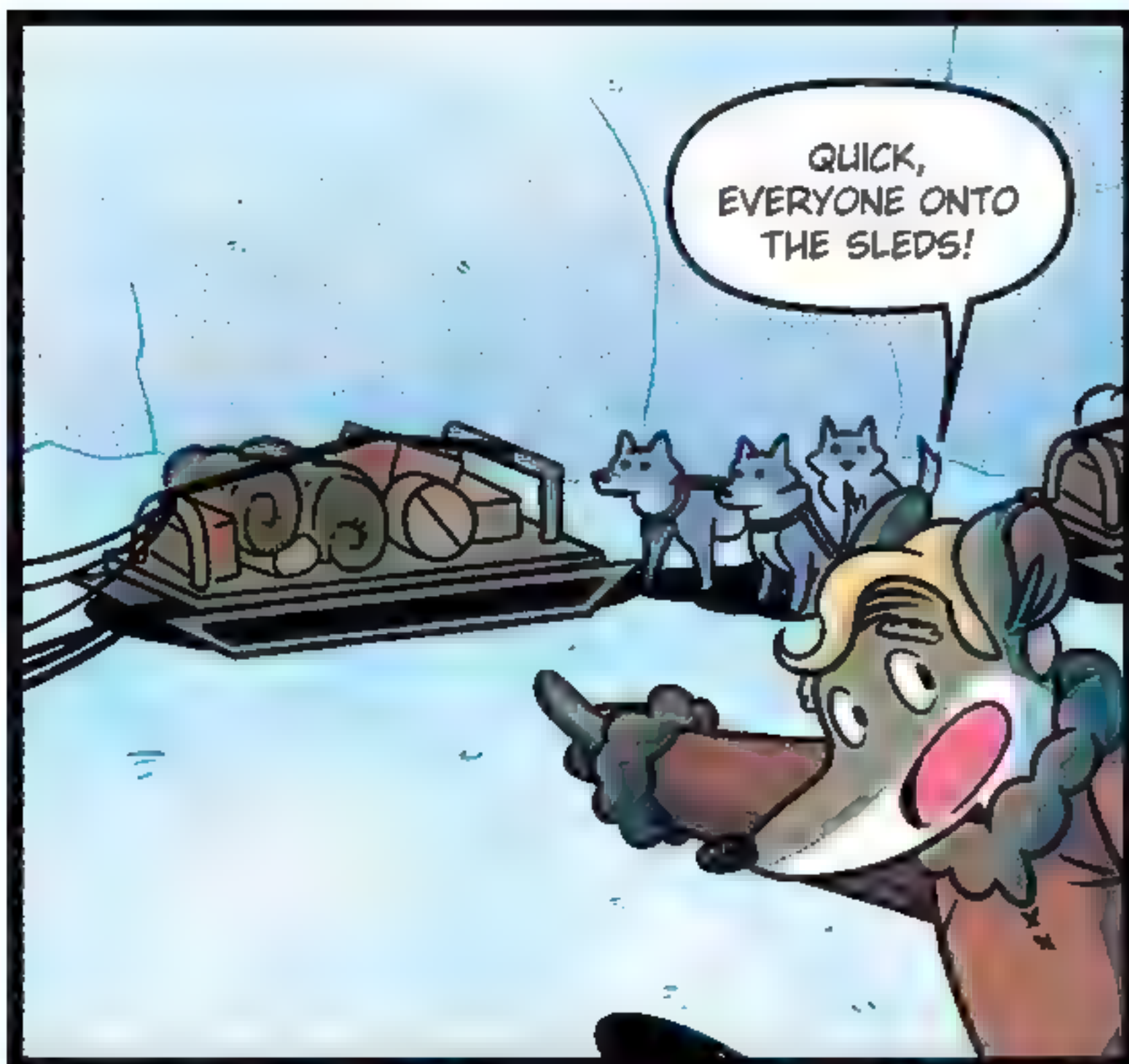




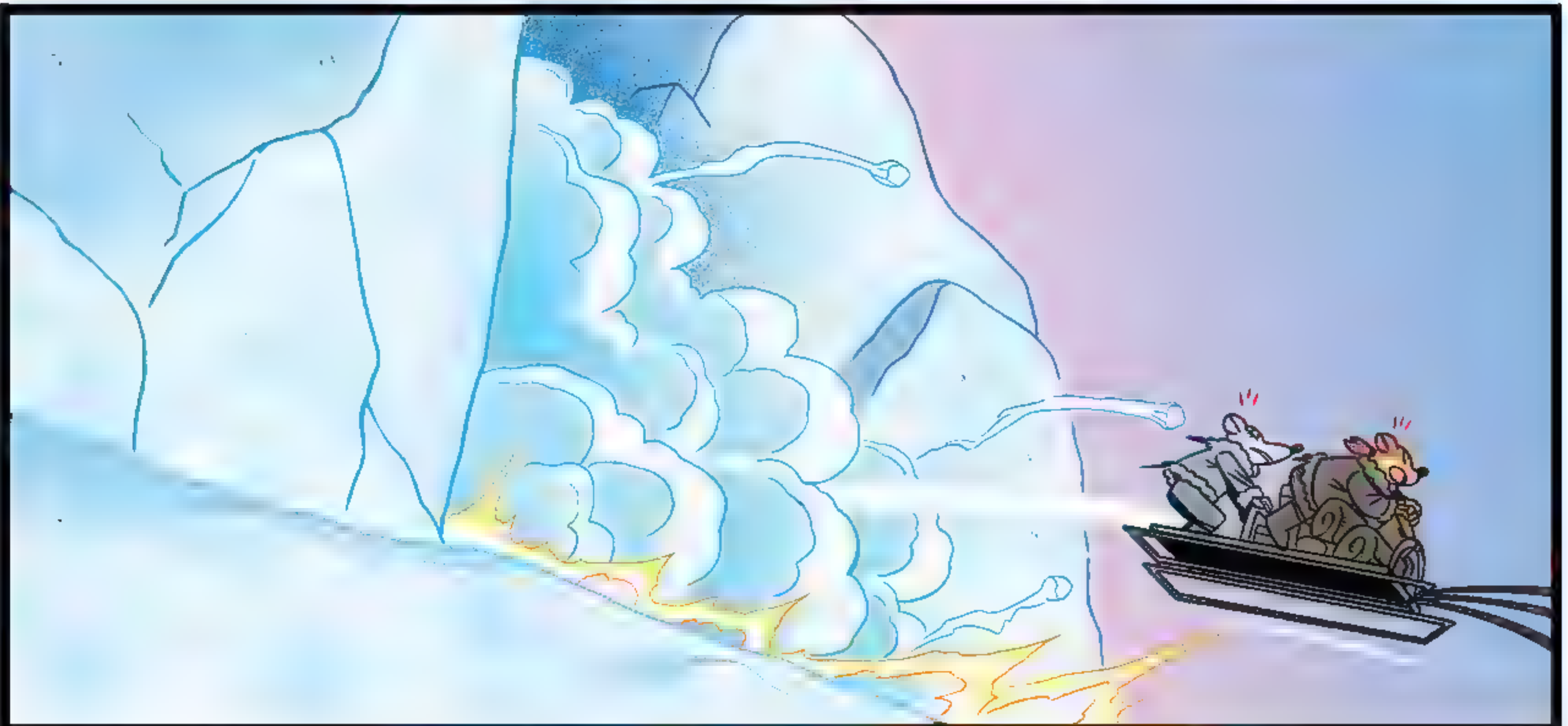
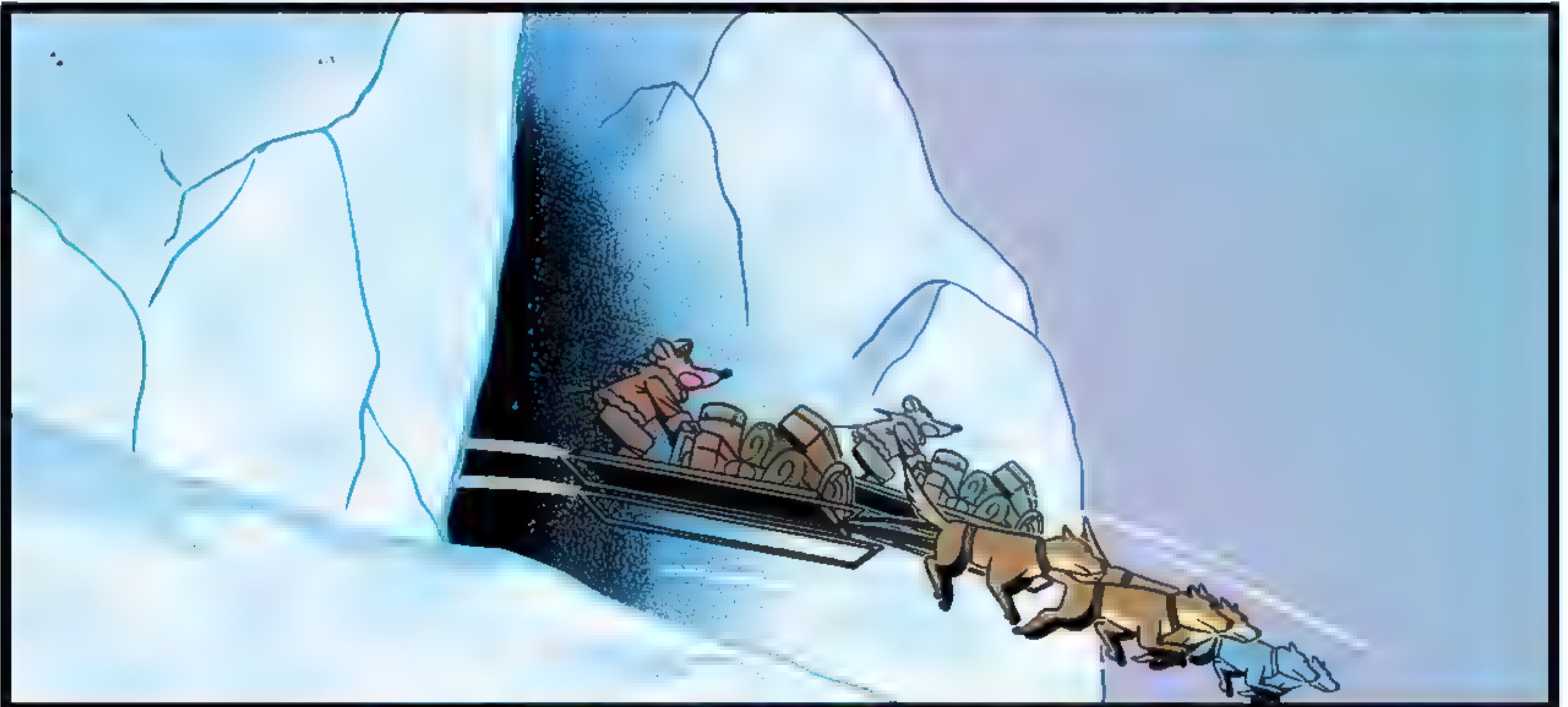




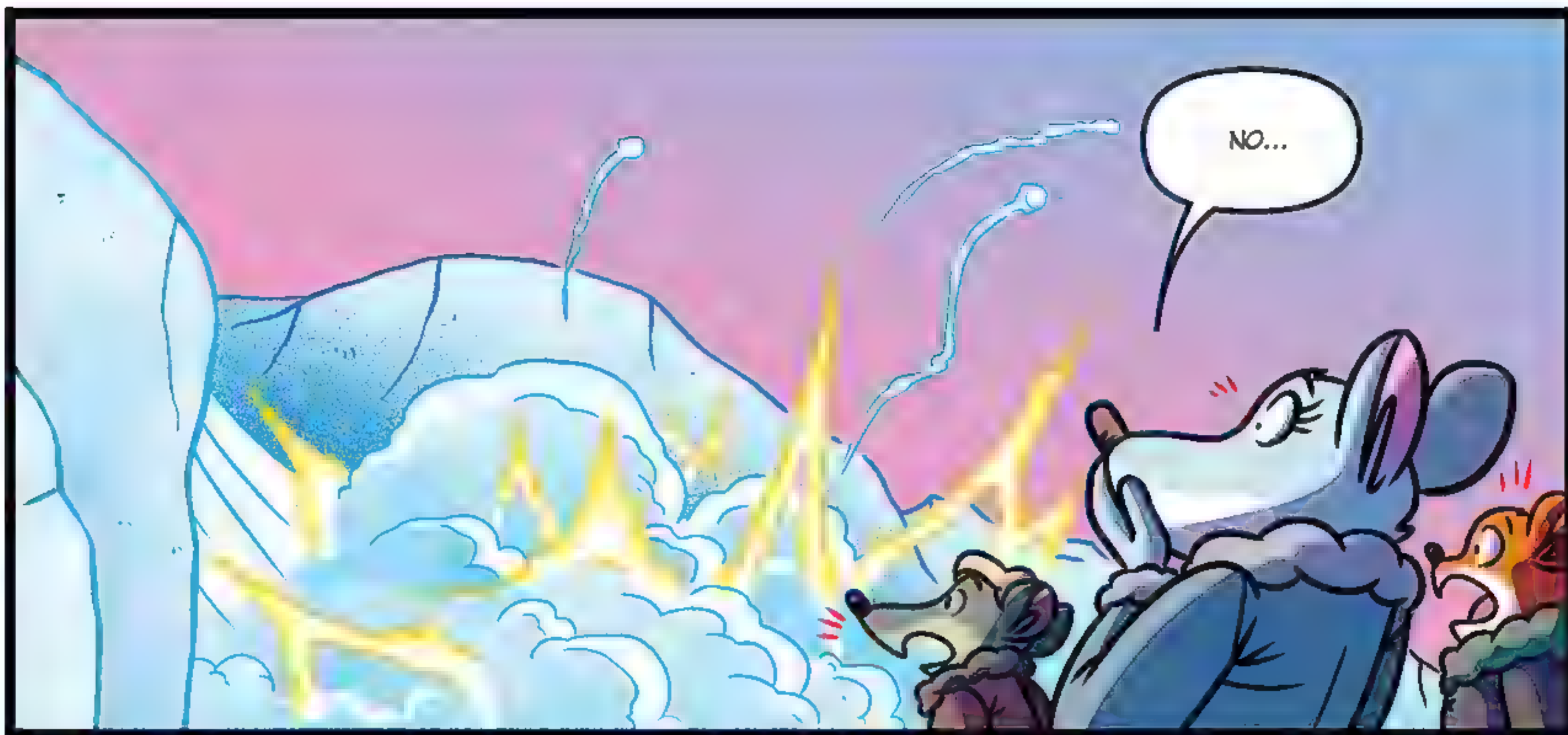




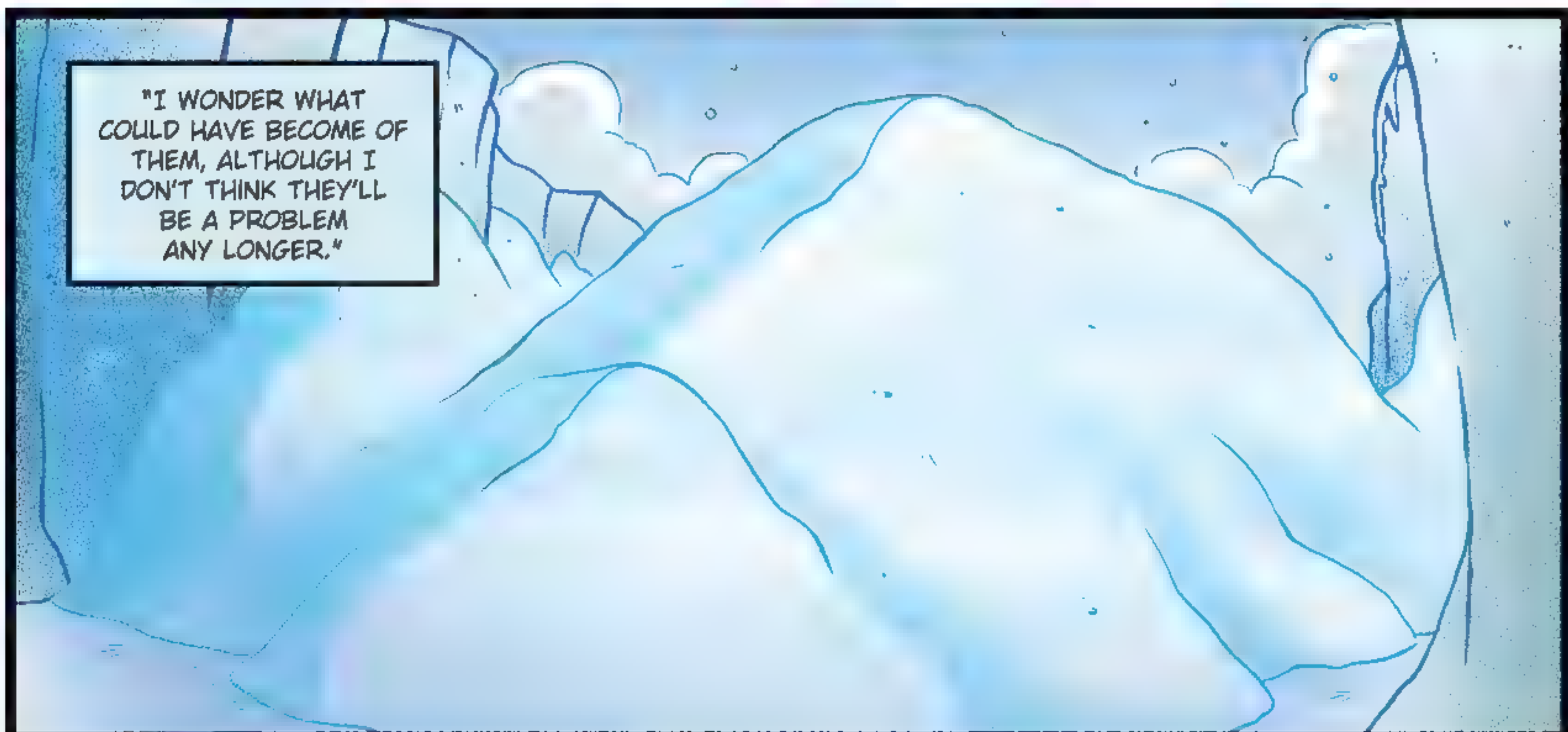




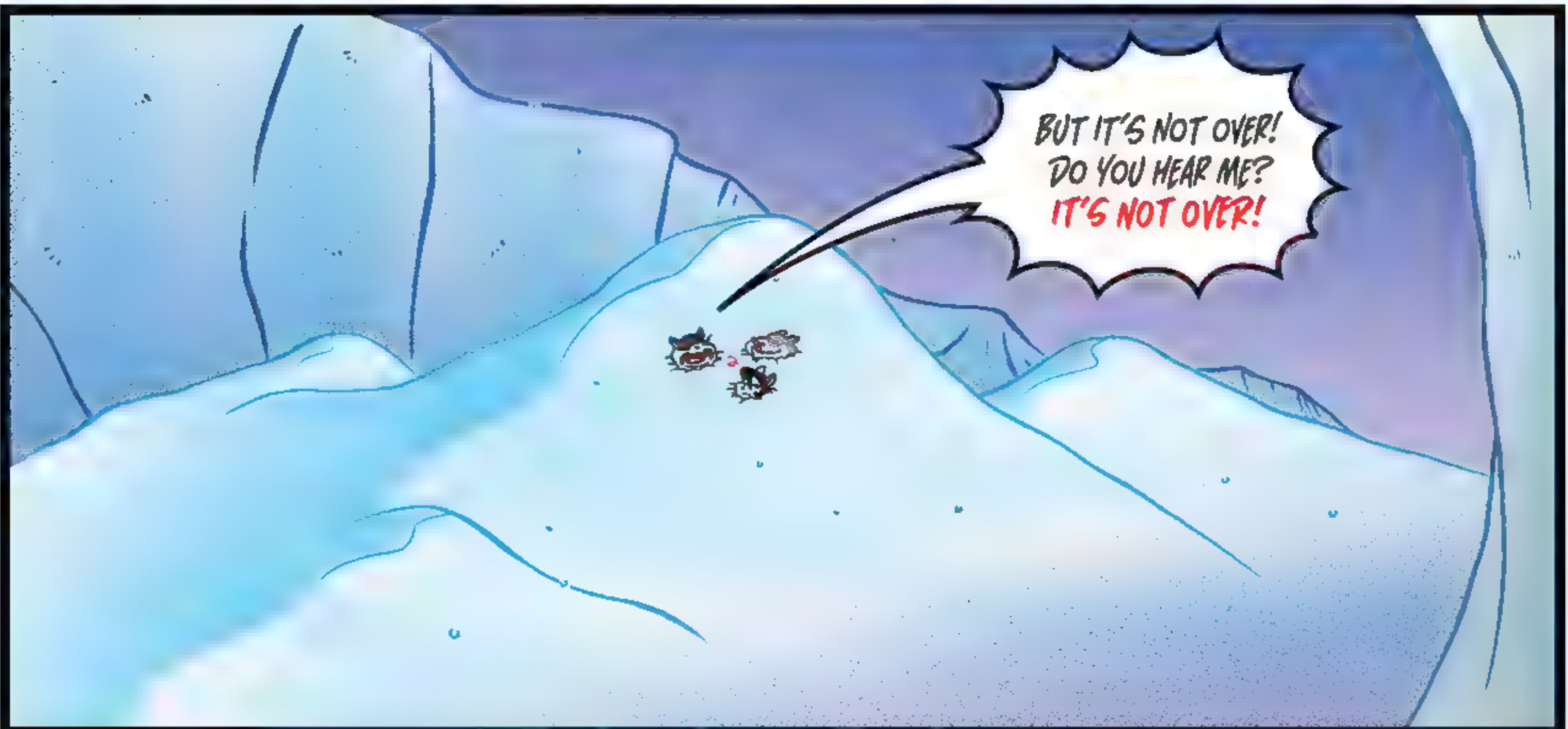
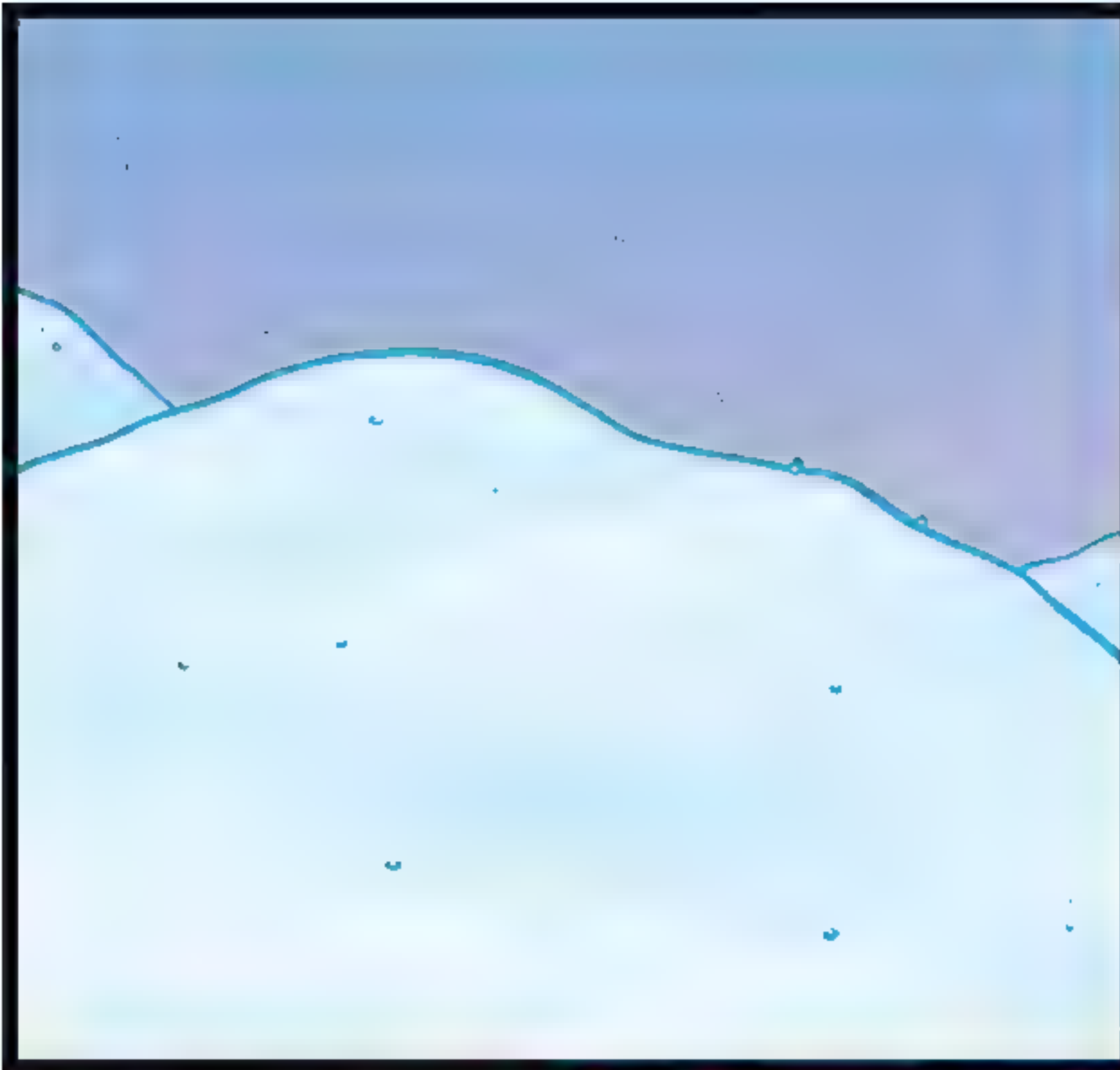














DECEMBER 14, 1911...

IT'S A  
BIG DAY! WE'VE  
REACHED ONE OF THE  
MOST INACCESSIBLE  
PLACES IN THE  
WORLD!



WE'LL LEAVE THIS TENT.  
THAT WAY WHOEVER COMES  
AFTER US WILL KNOW WE  
WERE THE FIRST!

WE COULDN'T  
HAVE DONE IT  
WITHOUT YOU!



BUT THEN...WE HAVE TO  
GO THE WHOLE WAY  
BACK NOW?

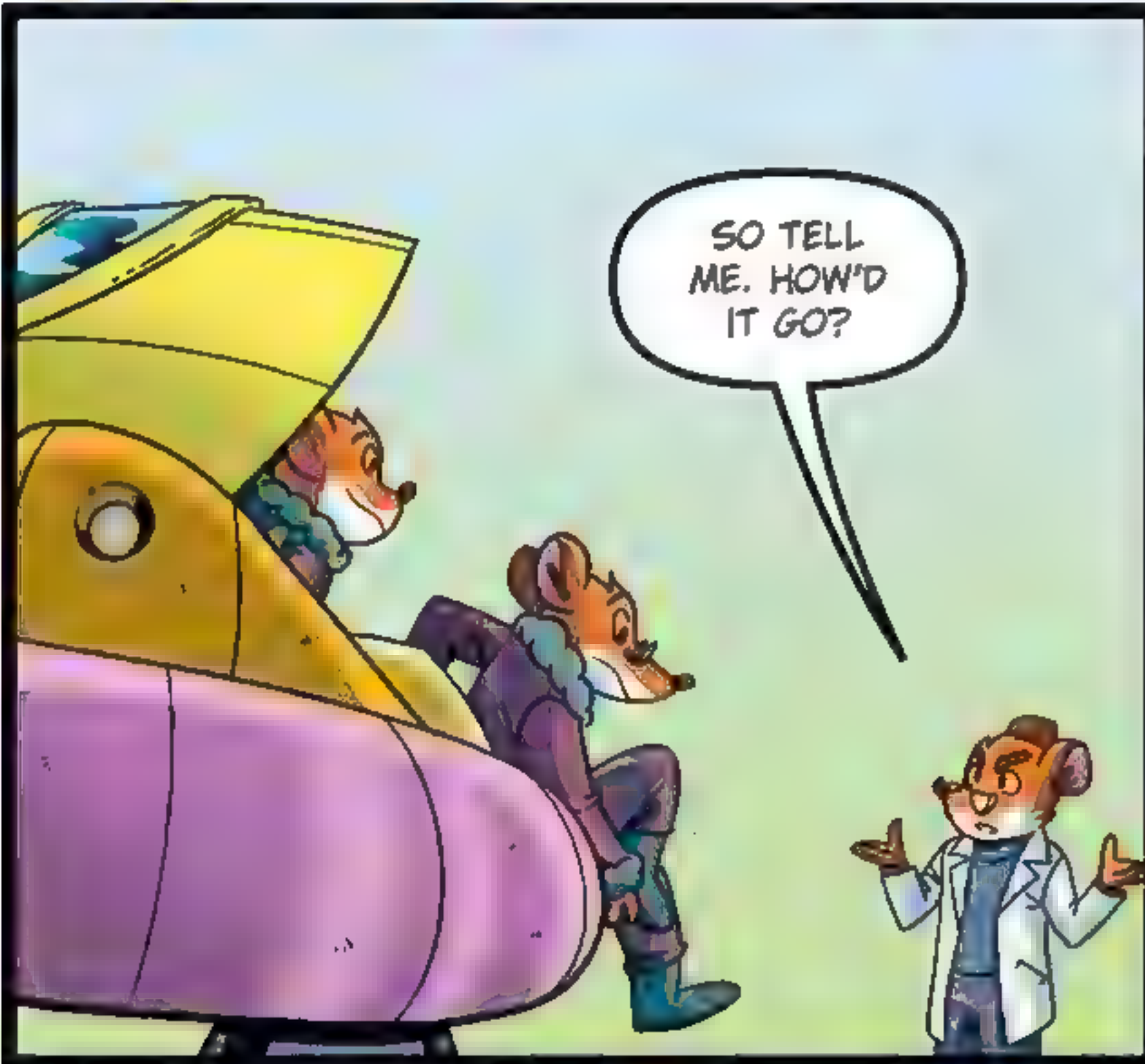
YES, BUT WITH  
THE KNOWLEDGE THAT  
WE CLAIMED THE  
SOUTH POLE FOR  
OURSELVES!



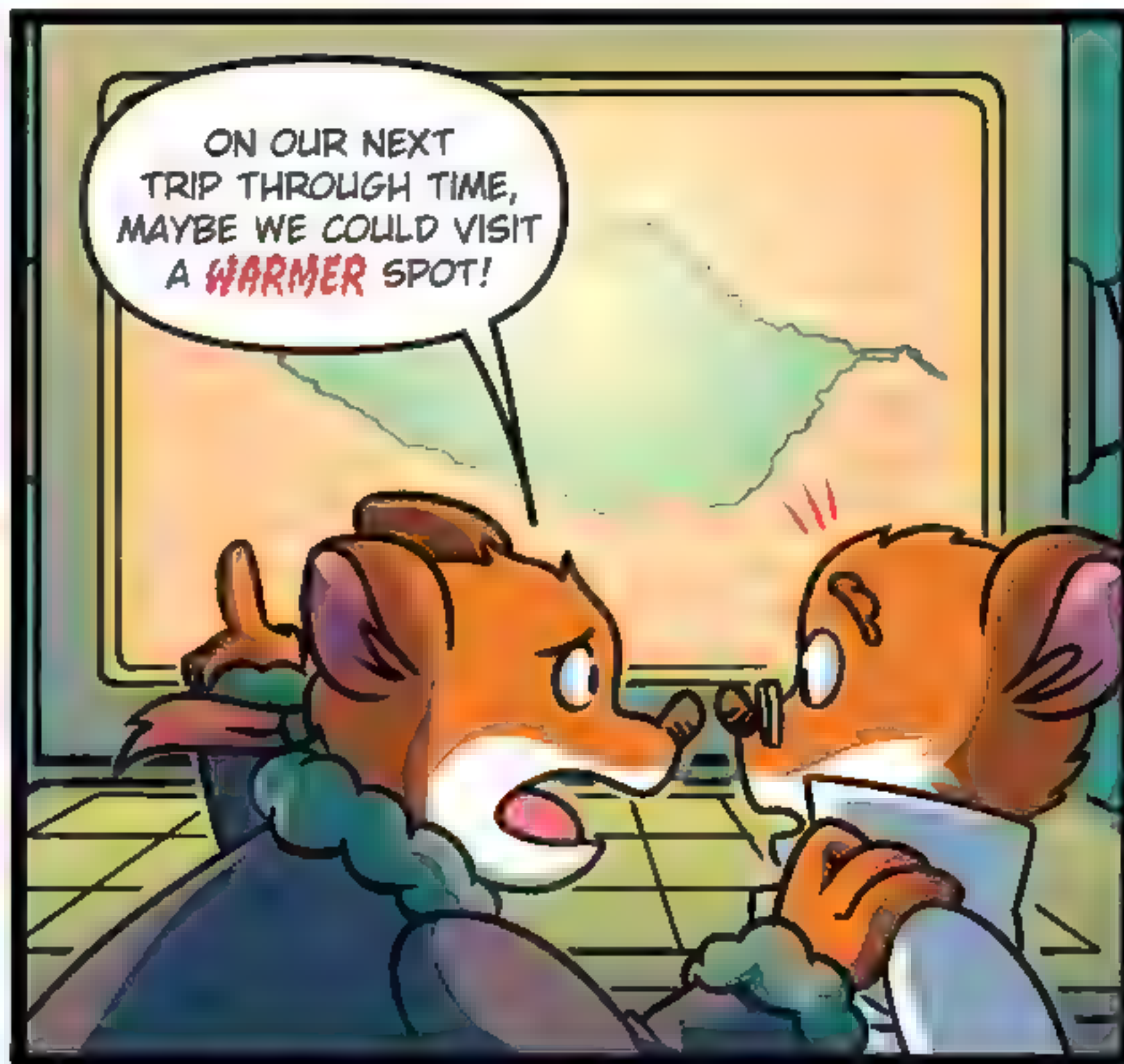
COME ON!  
LET'S GO BACK  
HOME!













# Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ™



Welcome to the extra-exciting, exploration-filled, eighteenth GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel. Written by the Italian dynamic duo of Leonardo Favia and Francesco Savino, and illustrated by homeboy Ryan Jampole, all from Papercutz, those furry folks dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. I'm Salicrup, *Jim Salicrup*, the Editor-in-Chief and GPS-challenged explorer of life.

If you've visited [geronimostilton.com](http://geronimostilton.com) recently, you may have seen that there's a section devoted to *The Philosophy of Geronimo Stilton*. We liked what we saw so much that we'd like to share a little bit of it right here, starting with...

## GERONIMO STILTON AND HIS MOTIVATIONS

The weaknesses of Geronimo Stilton make him even more likeable; you feel sorry for him, you laugh with him and you celebrate with him at the end, because all his defeats become successes. With his actions and his ability to laugh at himself, Geronimo Stilton conveys ever-present values: the importance of family, the capacity to overcome your fears, the acceptance of other people's faults, the importance of education, consistency, approachability, open mindedness towards other cultures, curiosity about what you don't know, the knowledge that teamwork is more successful than acting as an individual, world peace, friendship, love, solidarity, honesty, loyalty, sincerity, and respect for the elderly and those with lesser abilities.

And that's just the beginning! There's a lot more and we invite you to go to [geronimostilton.com](http://geronimostilton.com) to check it out for yourself. But let's just take another look at that first sentence, shall we? "The weaknesses of Geronimo Stilton make him even more likeable." That may sound a little strange to you at first, as don't we all try to avoid having any weaknesses? Yet, depending on what we decide to focus on in life, we can't all be great at everything, can we? We're constantly trying to be our very best, but just to do well at a few things usually means not doing all sorts of other things. For example, Geronimo is a great editor, but as he tells Trap, "the paper had assigned me to report on the big game, but it wasn't one of the easiest jobs for me, given that I'm not a very sporty man, or rather, mouse." Geronimo's aware of his limitations, but he doesn't let that stop him from doing his job. (Let's assume that after Geronimo and his fellow travelers returned to Professor von Volt's lab, he then raced back to the football stadium to continue reporting on the Cheese Bowl!)

Weaknesses are nothing to be ashamed about. We all have our own individual strengths and weaknesses and it's up to us to

make the best of it. Look at how Geronimo freely admits that he doesn't know a lot about sports. That's a much better approach to take than being ashamed and pretending he's an expert on the subject. By being honest people, and mice, we can understand that he's trying his best to understand something that he's not very knowledgeable about. When you act this way, more often than not, people will try to help you, and explain everything to you. Sure, there will be those who might actually tease you, but how much harm can they do when you've already said that you don't know much about something? Look what happened to Geronimo—he revealed his weakness, and within minutes he scored a touchdown in the big game! Sure that sounds far-fetched, but as an editor myself, and not "a very sporty man," I've always found it better to give it my best shot, rather than run away and hide.

Years ago, I was invited to play volleyball with my co-workers. I had never played that game before, or much sports in general, but I agreed and did my best. And guess what? I was terrible! Just awful! I was the worst player on the team by far. But I kept playing, week after week, and while I never became a good player—I did get better. And after a few months, people would tell me that they were impressed with how much better I started to play. Well, I couldn't have gotten any worse! But just as Geronimo's weaknesses make him likeable, mine also helped people like me, and also respect me for my willingness to fail and keep on trying.

And if I can share a little bit of my philosophy, I think that's a big part of what life is about. Not being afraid to fail, and always trying your best. You may not always succeed, but you will learn a lot, and people will like and respect you.

Gee, and all that was just based on the first sentence of *The Philosophy of Geronimo Stilton*!

On the following pages, enjoy a special preview of THEA STILTON #6 "The Thea Sisters and the Mystery at Sea." It's available at booksellers now, and it sure looks like the Thea Sisters also embrace Geronimo's philosophy as they once again work together to help the environment.

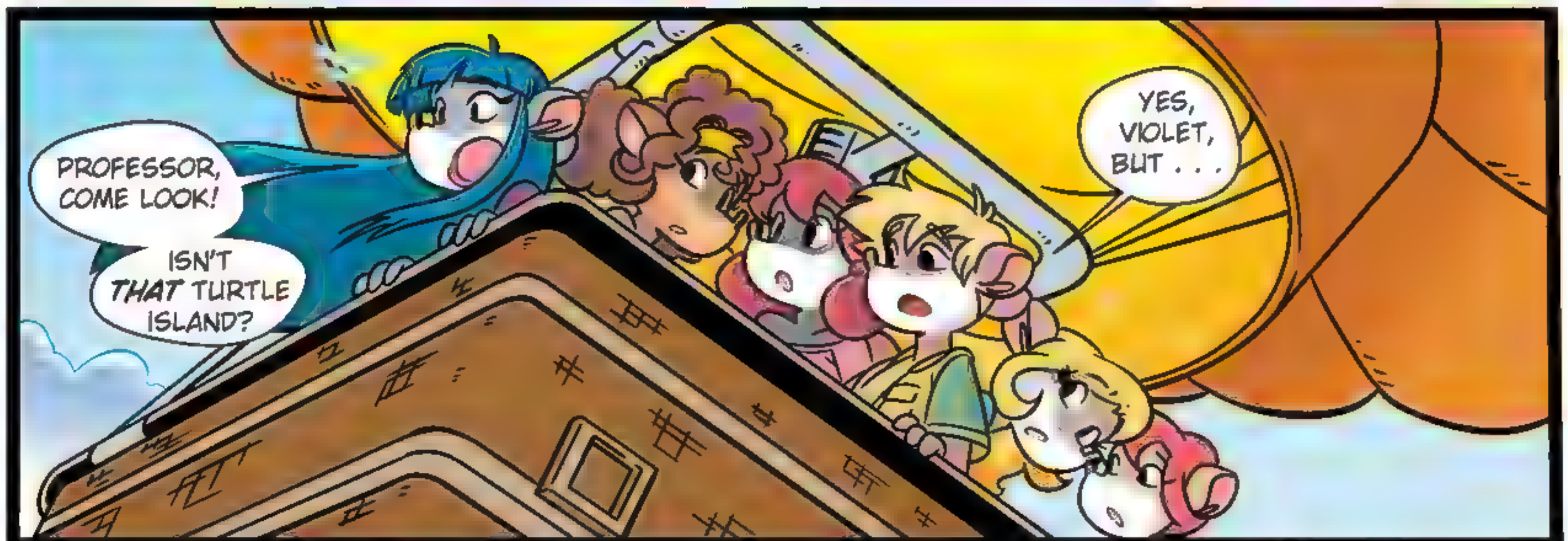
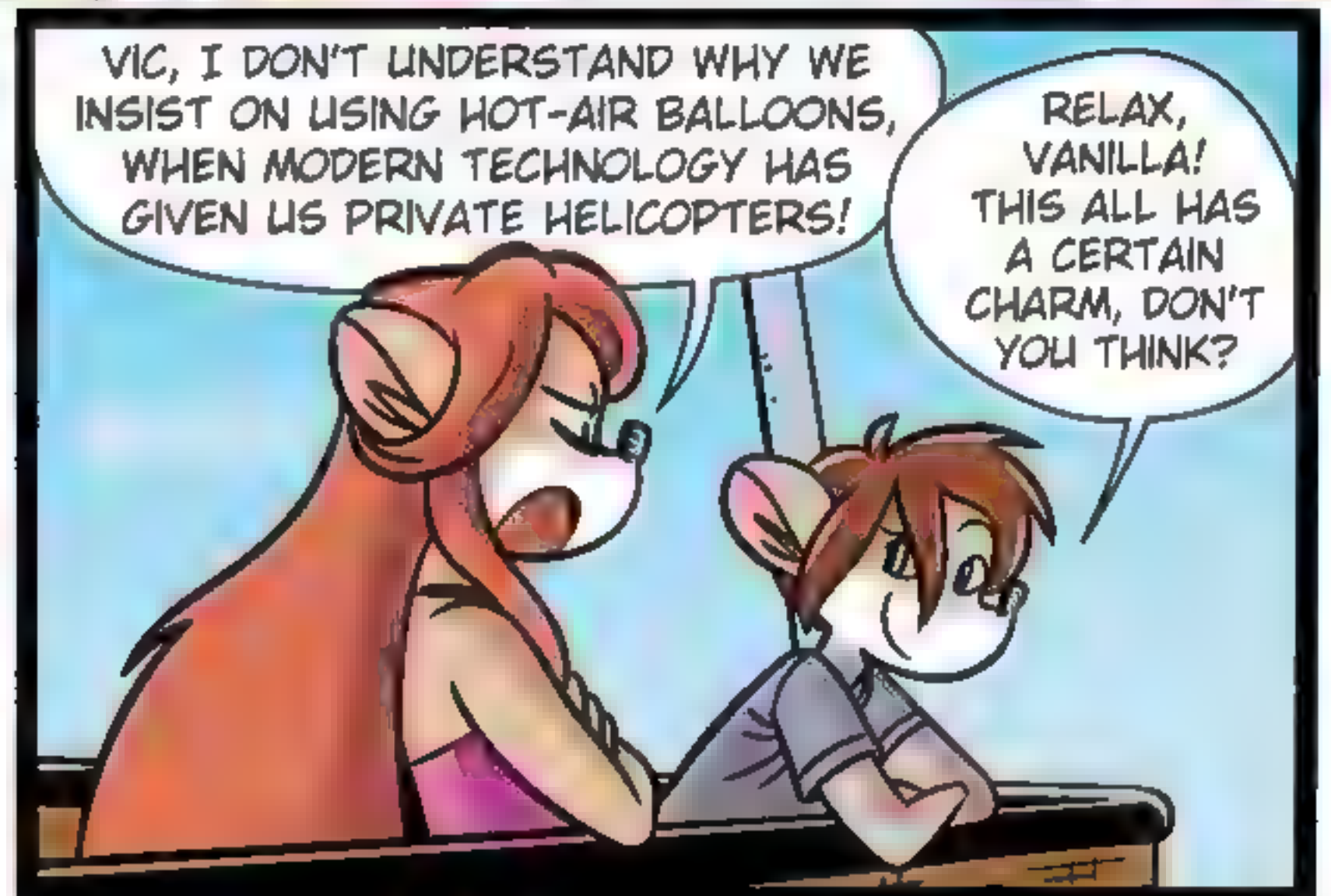
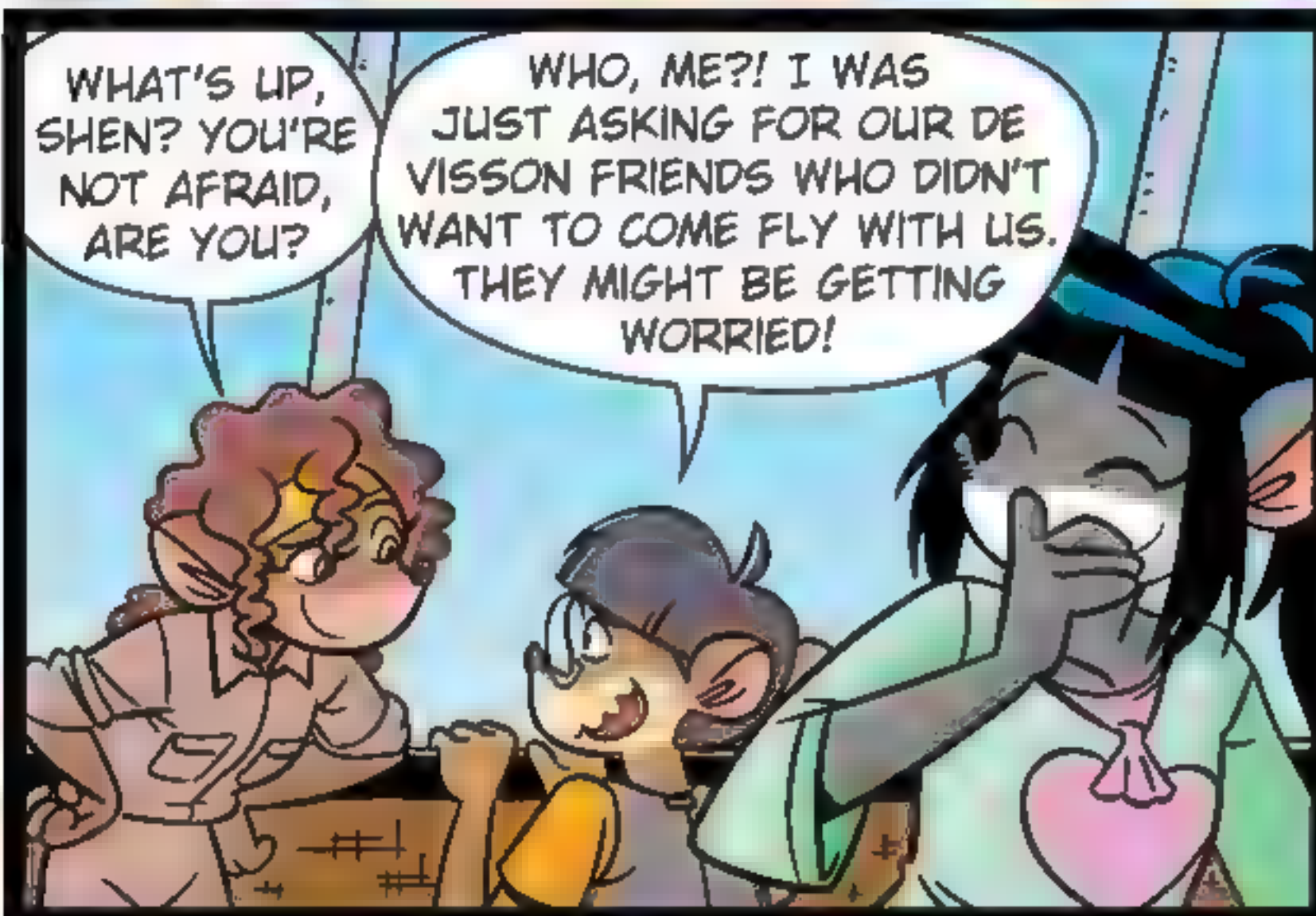
See you in the future!

## STAY IN TOUCH!

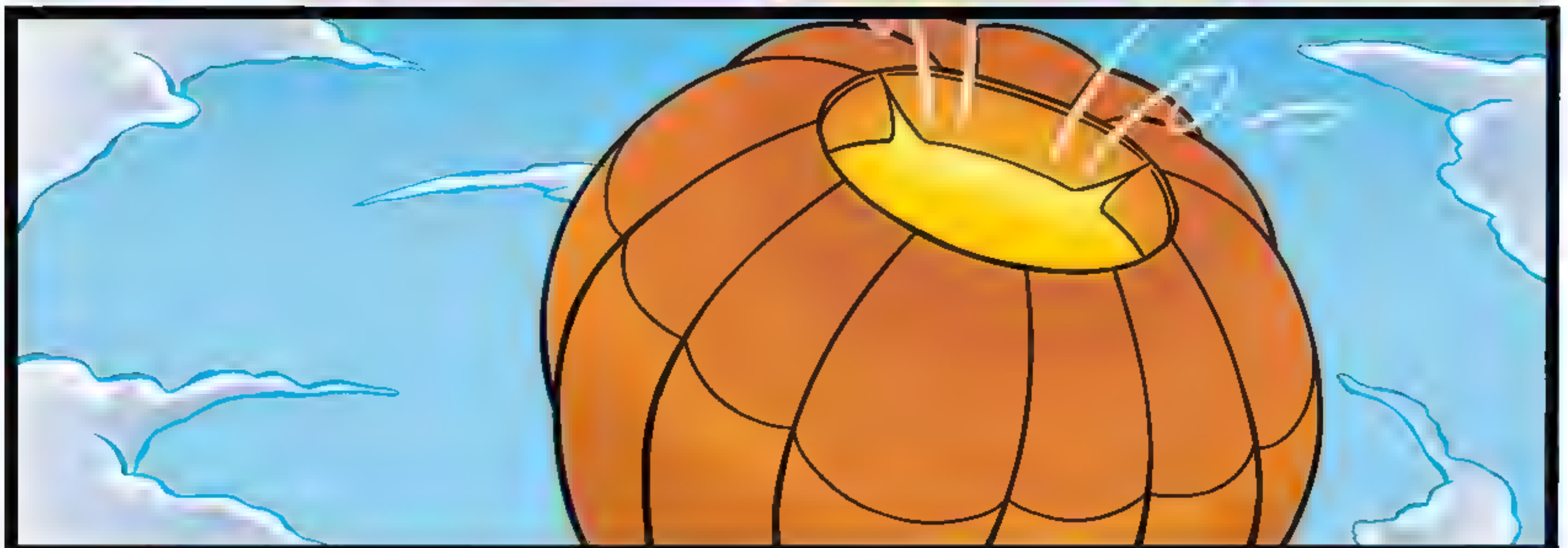
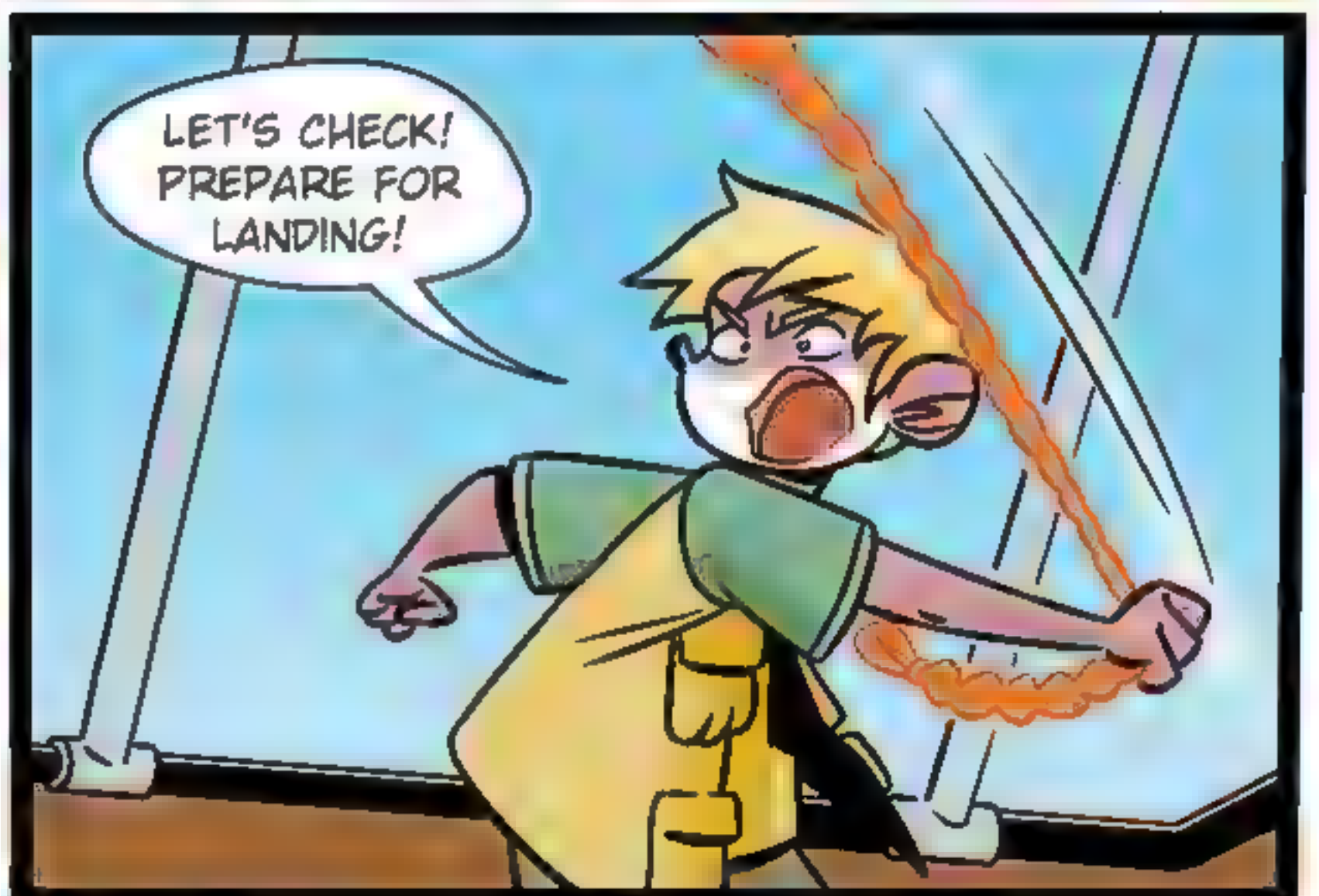
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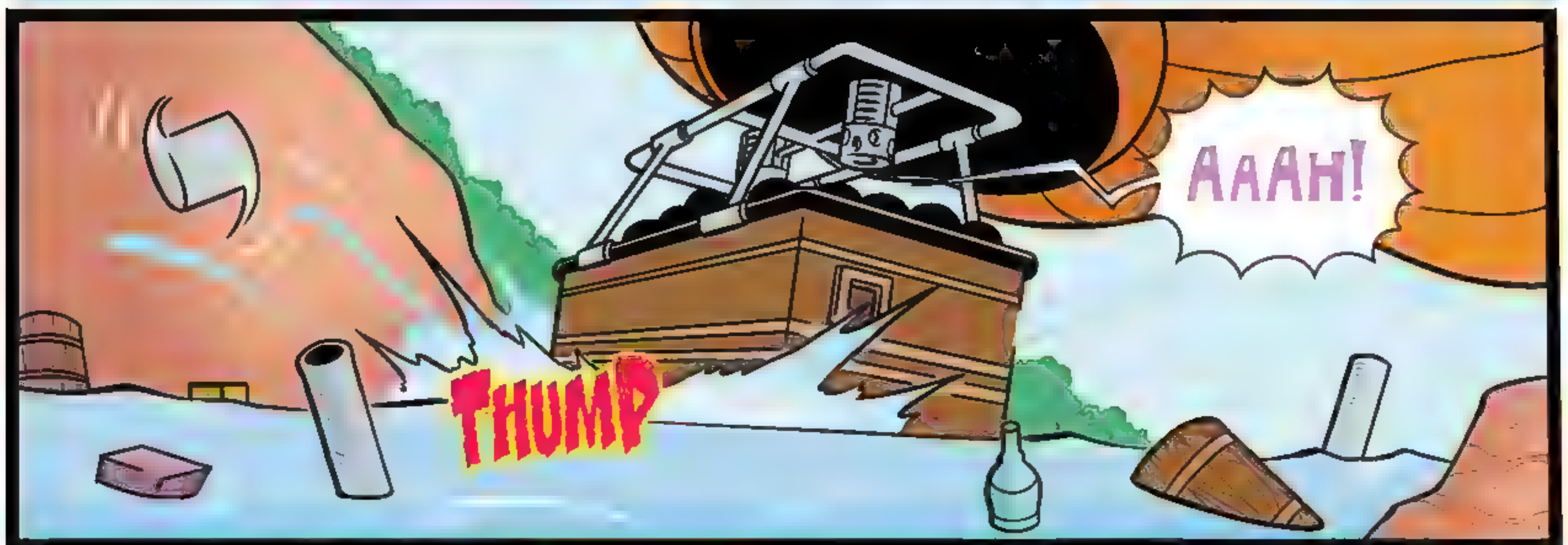
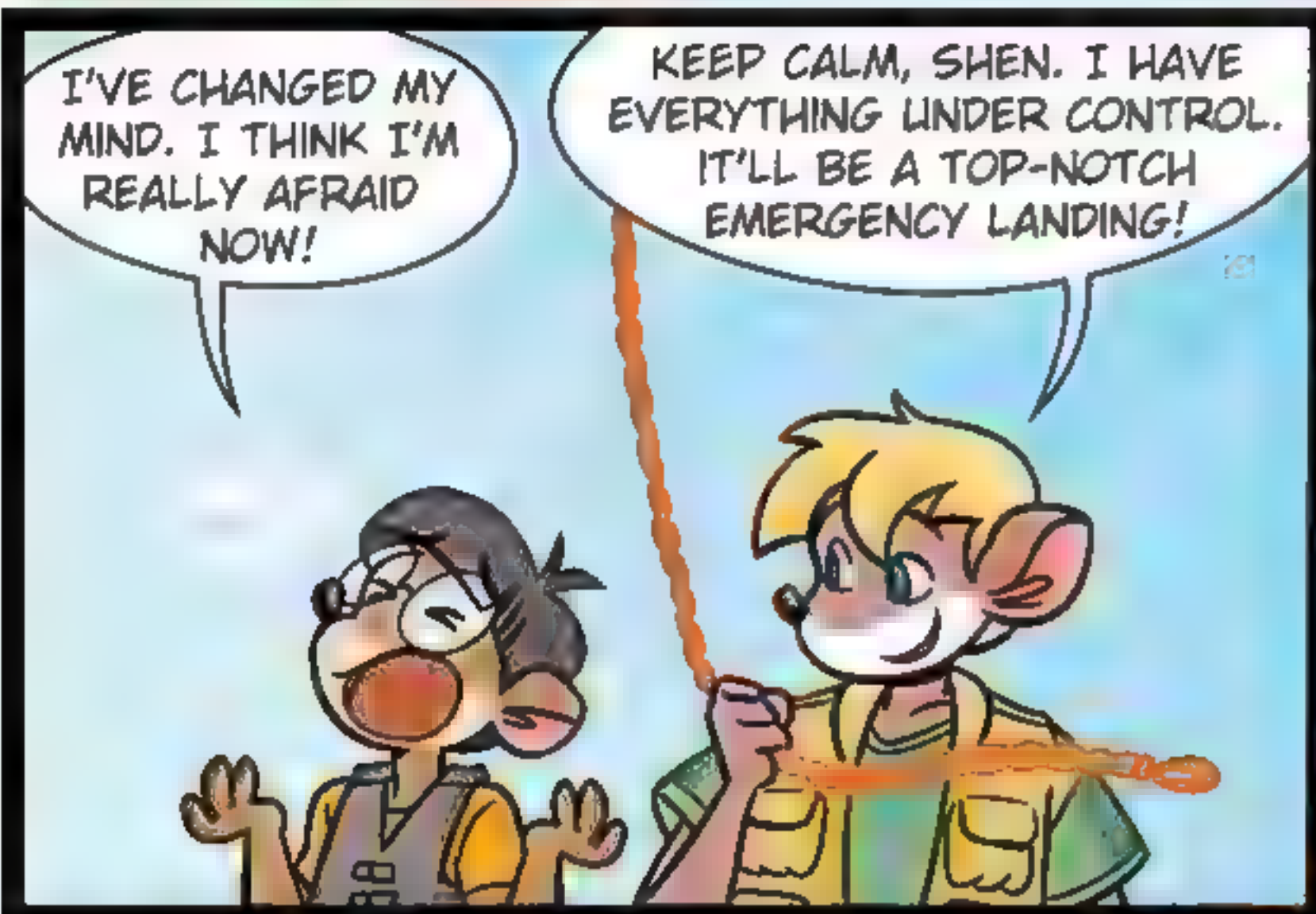
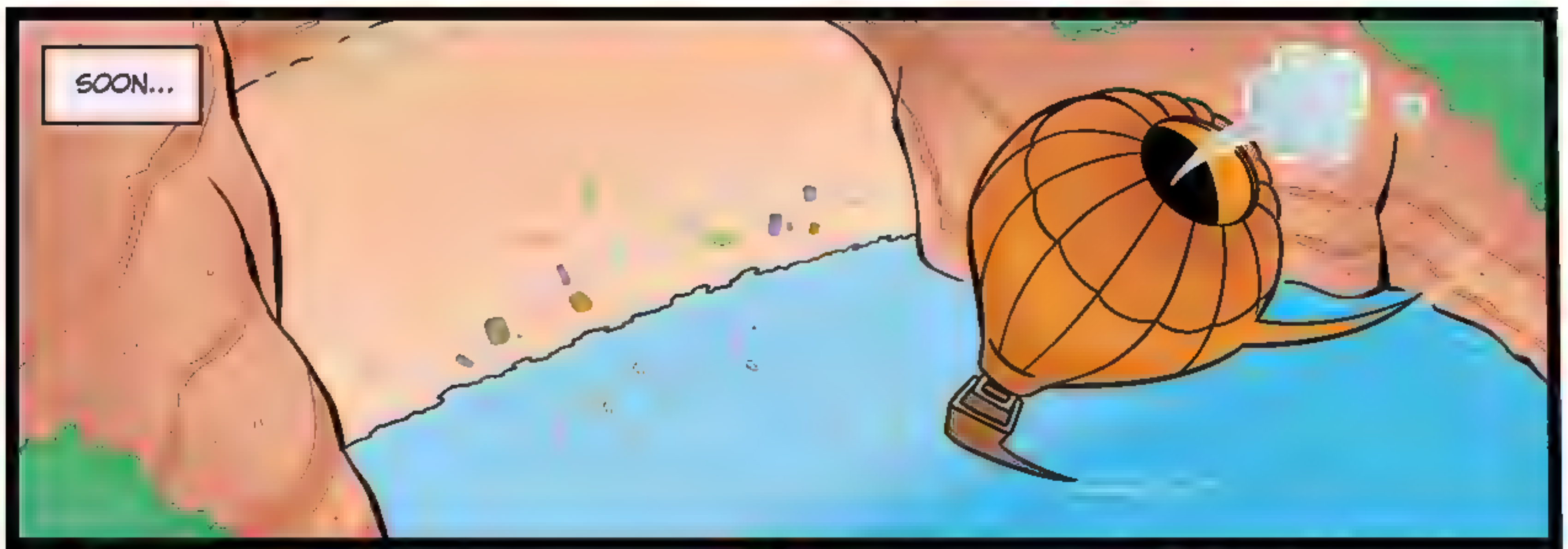
Special Preview of THEA STILTON #6 "The Thea Sisters and the Mystery at Sea"!



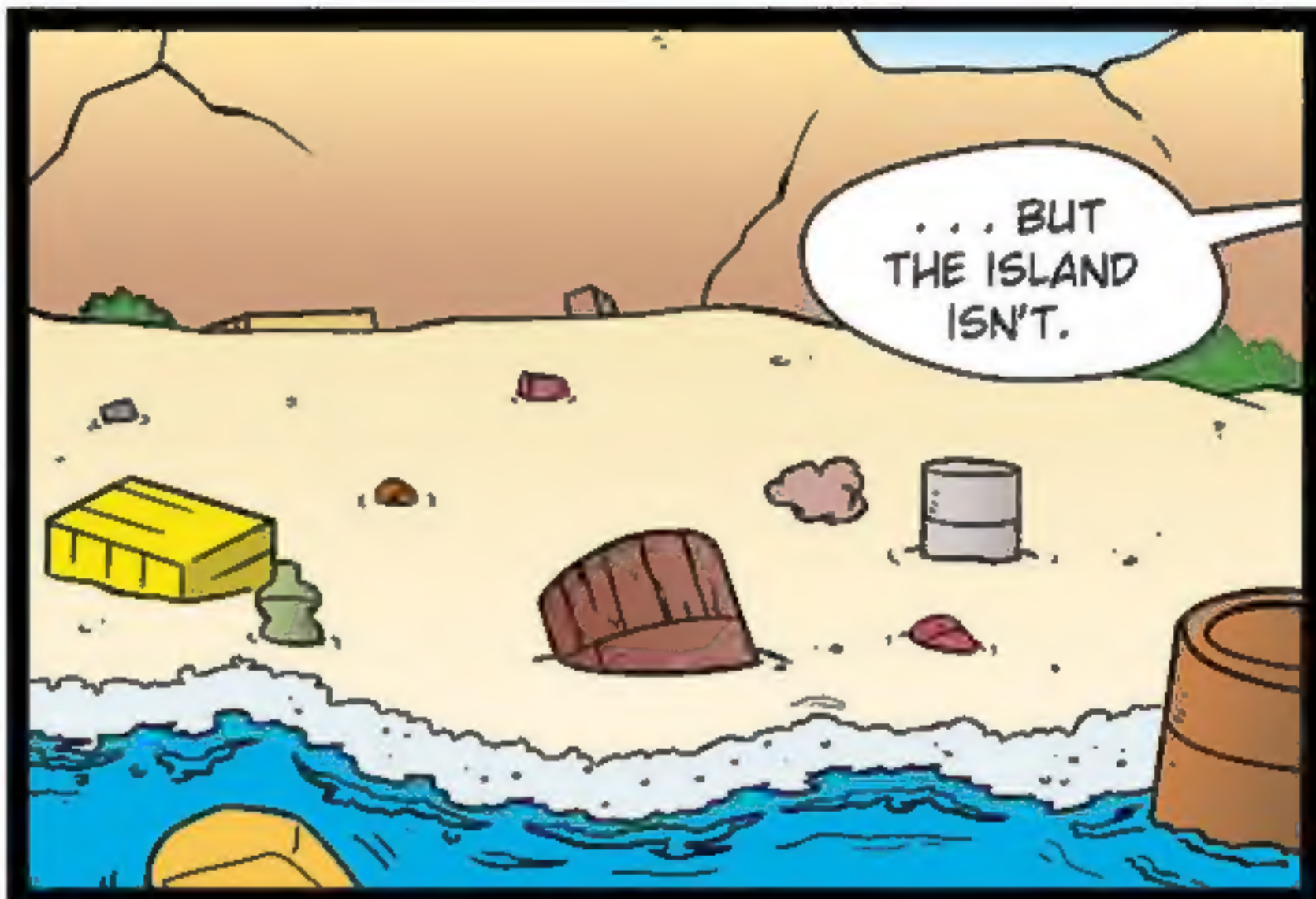








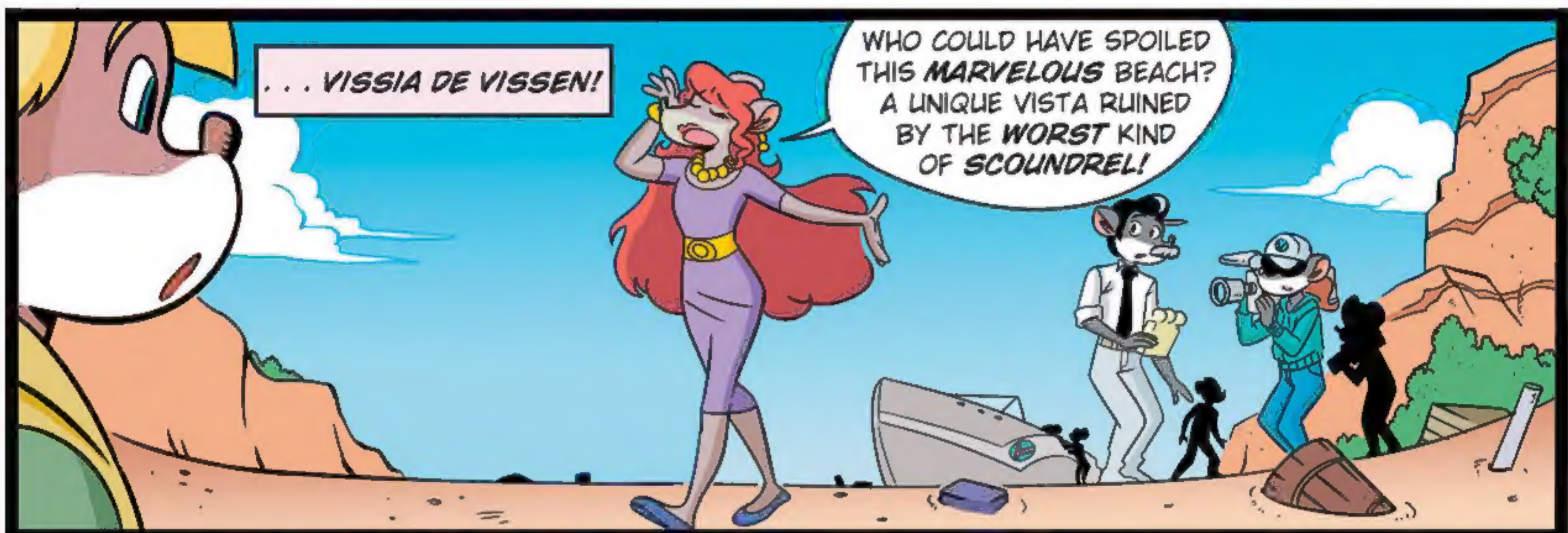








A FEW MINUTES LATER, A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON ARRIVES AT TURTLE ISLAND . . .



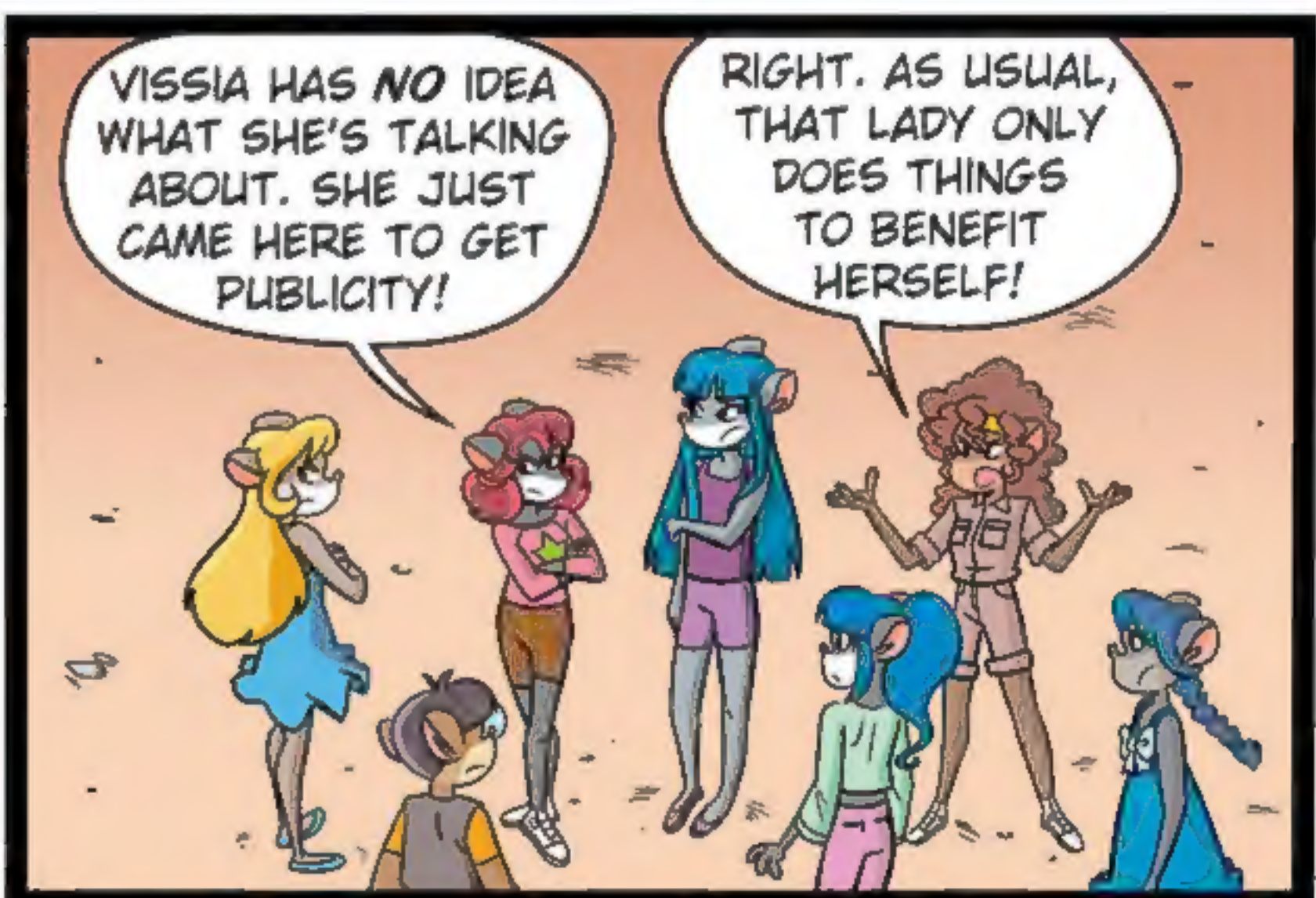
. . . VISSIA DE VISSSEN!

WHO COULD HAVE SPOILED THIS MARVELOUS BEACH? A UNIQUE VISTA RUINED BY THE WORST KIND OF SCOUNDREL!



NOT TO MENTION THE POOR SEA TURTLES!

YES, YES, OF COURSE, NATURALLY--THE TURTLES! I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE POOR TURTLES!



VISSIA HAS NO IDEA WHAT SHE'S TALKING ABOUT. SHE JUST CAME HERE TO GET PUBLICITY!

RIGHT. AS USUAL, THAT LADY ONLY DOES THINGS TO BENEFIT HERSELF!



SET UP THE TV CAMERAS SO I'M IN THE BEST LIGHT! MAKE SURE YOU CAN SEE THE TRASH!



AS SOON AS I SAW RICHARD MALEFACTOR'S LOGO, I KNEW YOU'D FINALLY BE ABLE TO GET YOUR REVENGE.

VERY CLEVER, VANILLA.

Don't Miss THEA STILTON #6 "The Thea Sisters and the Mystery at Sea"!



GERONIMO STILTON #18  
FIRST TO THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH!

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Based on an original idea by Elisabetta Dami

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For more information go to [www.stiltoncheese.com](http://www.stiltoncheese.com)

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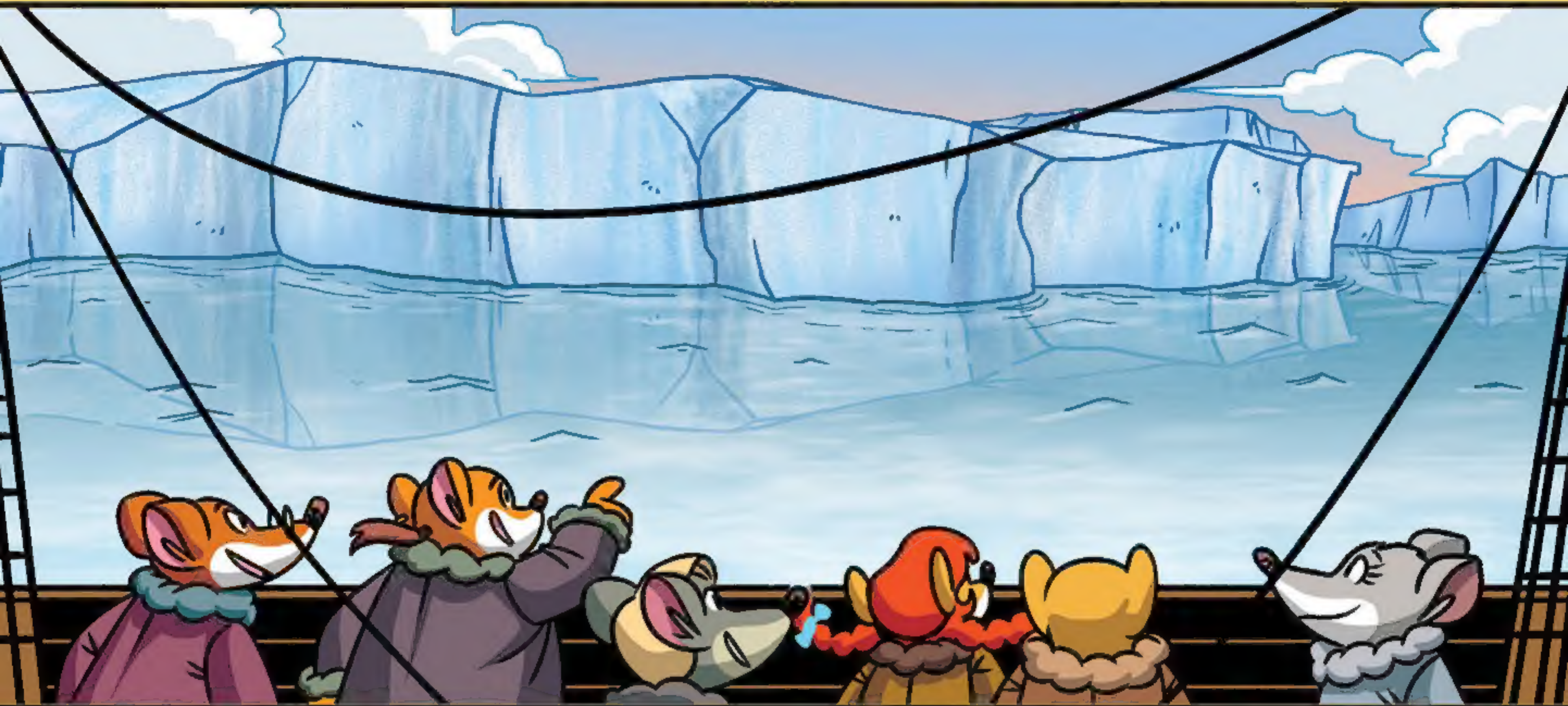
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First Printing



# Geronimo Stilton

**Saving the future, by protecting the past!**



## **THE RACE TO THE SOUTH POLE IS HEATING UP!**

Geronimo Stilton is the editor of the Rodent's Gazette, the most famous paper on Mouse Island. In his free time he loves to tell fun, happy stories. In this adventure, Geronimo has to face his worst enemies, the Pirate Cats, who have discovered a way to travel back in time and change history...

It's a race to the bottom of the world when Geronimo and his friends Trappy, Benjamin, Trap, and Thea join explorer Roald Amundsen's expedition to reach the South Pole in 1911. From Norway, through Portugal, and then straight on to the Bay of Whales in Antarctica. They'll have to evade the sneaky sabotage of the Pirate Cats to make sure Amundsen is the very first person to reach the South Pole!

**"GERONIMO FANS WILL EAT THIS UP  
QUICKER THAN A WHEEL OF CHEDDAR."**

**--WASHINGTON TIMES**

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